

THE
German Spie:

Truly discovering the
DEPLORABLE CONDITION
OF THE
KINGDOM and SUBJECTS
OF THE
French King.

BEING,
An ABSTRACT of the several
Years Observations of a Gentle-
man, who made that the pecu-
liar Business of his Travels.

L O N D O N: K

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To the Worshipful

Sir Charles Peeres,

Knight and Alderman of the
City of London.

S I R,

THE Zeal You have ever shewn for the Welfare of your Country; the Experience You have gain'd in *French* Commerce, when we had an open Trade; and the Knowledge You also have of those miserable People, who have long been Slaves to the unmerciful Ambition of the *French* Tyrant, render you above all other Gentlemen the fittest Patron, within my View, to give this honest Translation a suitable Protection at such a Time, when our Coffee-House Politicians are so strangely divided in their wild Opinions about the grand Affair.

Therefore, since nothing, as the Case stands, can be more conducing to the Publick Satisfaction, than a clear Prospect of the present Posture and Condition of the *European* Enemy, I have taken this Opportunity of sending into the World an Impartial View of all those terrible Calamities which have universally spread themselves over the *French* Dominions; hoping it may prove so agreeable

to Your Worship's Judgment, that You will have no Room to question the Integrity of the Author, upon whose Authority, the careful Translator had substantial Reasons to entirely depend without Exception; otherwise, I should not have presum'd to have crav'd Your Worship's Acceptance of so small a Trifle.

Also, knowing by Experience, that tho' the Merits of a Book may be sufficient to recommend it to the judicious Reader, yet it is often absolutely necessary, as in the present Case, that the Name of a worthy Person, eminent for his Virtues as well as Knowledge, should give an open Sanction to the Honesty of the Design, were it only to guard the Labours of a well meaning Author, from the Censure of Fools and the Reproaches of the spiteful, who often read with Prejudice, and condemn without Reason.

Therefore, *SIR*, since something of Moment at this Juncture depends upon the Credit of what I have here presented you with, it is chiefly upon the Considerations aforementioned, that I entreat you to countenance the following Observations with a favourable Reception; being well assur'd, that none will be so rash as to question the Validity of any Treatise that has the Honour in its Frontispiece to bear the Name of so worthy a Gentleman, who is known by his Character to deserve Praise, but to abhor Adulation; for which Reason it has been carefully avoided by

SIR,

*Your Worship's most humble
and obliged Servant.*

THE PREFACE.

*S*ince the Delays of Peace, tho' so highly conducing at this Juncture, to the Advantage of the Allies, and the publick Welfare of our British Nation, have been a little puzzling to some misjudging Persons; who, thro' the Impatience of their Tempers or Want of Skill to distinguish aright the present Posture of Affairs in Europe, are apt to measure every thing by the immediate Prospect of their own Interest, abstracted from that general Good, which ought at all times to be every Mans Concern; But, that there are many too much infected with this kind of Partiality, nothing is more certain, who are not only content to disturb their own Breasts with their groundless Surmises and ridiculous Suggestions, but cannot forbear to use their diligent Endeavours to reason weaker Persons into the same Errors; so that by this unhappy Itch of subduing others to their own Opinions, whole Multitudes become tainted with the same Poyson; which, when
once

once swallow'd, requires a Skilful Politician, instead of a Physician to expel to purpose. However, since it is every Mans Duty to undeceive his Brethren, when either Prejudice or Imprudence, the Subtilty of ill men or their own whimsical Conceits, have preingag'd their Minds and hoodwink'd their Understanding, especially when their fallacious Notions have a scurvy Tendency to their own Disintetest as well as to the Injury of the Publick: We have therefore thought the following Treatise of the present Circumstances of our French Enemies, the Difficulties and Necessities of their harrass'd Government, as well as the miserable hardships of the poor Subject, all set in a true Light, without a Mixture of either Gaul or Honey, might in some measure be a means to convince the Ignorance of such Persons, who, from the French King's refusing to sign the late Articles of Peace, are too apt to imagine, his non-compliance to be the Result of his ability to make a further Defence, and that he has some Enterprize in view, which, if attended with Success, may still enable him to continue the War and keep us longer at Defiance. But who ever is so weak as to draw such wild Conclusions from the King of France in his rejecting the Proposals of the Allies, may, at the small expence

pence of Two or Three Hours Time, be thoroughly satisfy'd in the subsequent Translation how far they are mistaken, in which, I can assure 'em, they will meet with nothing but what is purely genuine, the Original being publish'd by a German Gentleman, in his own Language, who had not only been a Spy in the French Court; but is very lately return'd into his own Country from travelling all over the Enemies Dominions, on purpose to truly inform himself of their present Condition, which he faithfully represents, as the Reader will find, to be very deplorable; and notwithstanding the present empty Fears and Jealousies of our over hasty Peace-makers, yet is it plain, that His French Majesty has no other Reasons to object against the Terms the Allies have offer'd him, than a Criminal Convict has to lay hold of an Opportunity to suspend his Execution for a few wretched Hours, without the least Hopes of any thing but a Miracle, to redeem him from his approaching State. Besides, when an Enemy is so far weaken'd, as the French visibly are, as to be past all Possibility of ever recovering their lost Power, by either Sea or Land, as the Reader may be well assur'd from the following Observations, their Continuation of the War for another Campaign, is but the only ready Way to further

further compleat their Ruin, and to bring them before next Summer, if the Allies please, to much sharper Terms than have been hitherto exacted: For the French King's Refusal of the Proposals that have been tendered him, is only to shew the Haughtiness of his Temper, and not his Ability to contend, like a proud hardy Combatant, who, when his stronger Adversary has thrown him to the Ground and sits a straddle upon his Neck, will fold his Arms over his Face and suffer himself to be beaten much more than he needs do, before he will cry peccavi; and all to come off with the blemish'd Honour of being a batter'd brave Fellow.

In short, as Heaven has given bounds to the aspiring Eagle, and has been pleas'd to decree in the Law of Nature, that hither she shall rise and no higher; so, Omnipotence has given Bounds to the Tyranny of France, and seems to thunder in their Ears with a terrible Voice, viz. Thus far, like the raging Sea, hast thou extended thy Pride, but, I will drive thee back with Scorn into thy Native Circle.



TRULY DISCOVERING

And this we do so much the more willingly, because we find that several Persons have form'd in themselves such an advantageous *Idea* of the Power of *France*, by reason of the late Con-

junction of *Spain*, that we deem'd it proper to disabuse those People, and all others that are led into the same Error.

Our Author begins with a Discourse of the Beauty of the Country, and Temperature of the Climate, the Goodness of the Fruits, the agreeable Dispositions and Politeness of the Inhabitants, and their Affability towards Strangers, which in Truth is very great ; and after he has entertain'd the Reader for some Time with these things, he tells us,

That the Miseries of those People are not to be express'd ; That there is not any Nation under Heaven so oppress'd, even in a Time of Peace, neither excepting the *Muscovites* nor the *Turks* ; and that those distressed People are reduced to such a Condition of Poverty, that tho' the merciless Exactors exercise in those Places, ten times more Cruelty than an Hostile and Victorious Army is wont to do upon a People newly subdu'd ; nevertheless the King is not able to raise the half of his ordinary Imposts, which he rais'd about Three Years ago, because the People have no Money, and for that the Kingdom lies so like a Desert in many Places.

That this Year there will be a Failure of above Thirty Millions, upon the Score of Non-ability to pay.

That all Manufactures are at a very low Ebb ; as those of Silk, Linnen, Paper, &c. And that all the Artificers are either dead, or in the Wars ; and that their Trade is absolutely ruin'd, as well by Land as Sea. as well without as within the Kingdom ; and that *Lewis XIV.* receives but very little Money by it : Which is the Reason he has been constrain'd to have Recourse to violent Means,

Means, which are never made use of, but when the State is ready to perish; such as are the Creation of a great Number of new Officers, the borrowing of Thirty Millions, the Augmentation of Officers Fees for large Sums, the extraordinary Taxes upon the Clergy, his Command to sell a great part of his Plate, and the enhancing the Value of Money; by which means, the King has rais'd above a Hundred Millions, without which he could not have paid his Men this Year.

That all Provisions for the Belly, as Corn and Wine, are sunk above the sixth part of the Value, which they were formerly worth, and much less than what they cost the Husbandman.

That they who have Lands to Let cannot find Farmers, and that the Houses tumble down, and the Lands lie untill'd.

That they who have Offices, have no Profit by them.

That they who have Money due, cannot get the Interest of their Money in a long Time, unless they be such who have lent Money to the King some Years ago, because he thinks thereby to oblige all those that have Money, to lend it him.

That all the Subjects of that Kingdom in general, are all equally ruin'd: As,

The Church-men, who formely were very Wealthy and Powerful, but now their Lands and other Estates no longer yield 'em any Money: And for the inferiour Clergy, they have nothing to do, for they neither Marry, nor Baptize, nor Bury; all the Men being kill'd in the Wars.

The Grand Nobility live only upon their Pensions and Court Employments: The Gentry are

a Body the most miserable in the World, and which ought to curse the Reign of this King.

The Officers of Justice, of the Politick Government, and the Finances receive no Benefit, either by their Estates or Employments, and yet the King loads them every Day with new *Demands*.

The Universities, Colleges, and Academies for Riding, Dancing, and Exercise of Arms, are all so low that the Masters die for Hunger.

That whereas prudent Princes never make War, but with one Part of the Revenue of their Subjects, and never conquer, but to enrich and People their Dominions, *Lewis XIV.* has devour'd in War three Fourths of all the Funds of the Kingdom, and is hastning to eat up the Remainder; and that his own Subjects are a thousand times more miserable than the People which he has conquer'd; as appears,

First, In that the Lands and the Houses, one with another, are not worth above the fourth Part of the Revenue of what they were worth; besides, that there is no Rent to be seen, and to sell them, they would not yield a sixth Part.

That there is a fourth Part of the Houses, that fall to ruin; and a fourth Part of the Lands that are thrown up.

That the Husbandman, who formerly gained 8 *Sous* a Day, living in the Country, now gets not above two, and that pay'd him in Corn, of which a Bushel that was formerly commonly worth 30 *Sous*, while there was Plenty, was not worth above five or six; and withall, that there is very little Corn in the Kingdom now left.

That by Consequence the King has devour'd all the Money that was due to the Rich Men of the Kingdom, by the Loans of Money to particular

cular Persons; and this exceeds above a third Part of all the Stock of the Kingdom. For Lands, Houses, and Rents being eaten up, the Mortgages must fail.

That he has several times devour'd the Offices and Employments of the whole Kingdom, which he sold at dear Rates, and which were to him instead of a Grand Principal Substance, which produc'd nothing to the Officers.

That all these Offices of Judicature, Civil Policy, and the Finances, could not have cost less than Eight Hundred Millions, and that the small Wages which they receive from the King, are swallow'd in the Taxes which they pay from Time to Time.

That the innumerable Multitude of these Offices, and of their exorbitant Prices is such, that these People having but small Wages, and ill paid, cannot drain less than a Hundred Millions a Year from the People, by the litigious Pettifogging, their Cheating and Extortion.

That the King has dissipated above two Thirds of the Coined Money of the Kingdom, as well by exhausting the Price, as by transporting it out of the Kingdom, and besides that has devour'd two Thirds of the Plate, within these 40 Years.

That he has devour'd the Estates and Lands of Cities, Corporations, and particular Persons, by re-uniting them to the Crown Demeasnes.

That he has devour'd several Hundreds of Millions, which he extorted from those that were call'd *Partisans*, who were Farmers of his Imposts, whom he despoil'd and robb'd, after they had robb'd others.

That the Kingdom of *France* is dispeopl'd within these Forty Years, above half in half; but chiefly within these Ten Years.

That there are in the Armies of the King of *France*, between six and seven Hundred Thousand Men, including in the Number, a Hundred, or a Hundred and Twenty Toll-gatherers and Subsidy Collectors, and are thus numbred: 50000 Horse, 18 Dragoons, 332000 Foot, 30000 belonging to his Artillery, and Provision, and Ammunition Waggon, and 50000 in his Fleets and Gallies, and above 100, or 120 Camp-Varlets, which make up the Number of 700000 Men, the greatest Part of which are unmarried.

That there are destroy'd and die every Year, few less than a Third Part of these Men, according to the Lists of Recruits, which are so many Females excluded from Marriage. And that at the End of Ten Years, Marriage being so much hinder'd, above the Half of any numerous Nation will come to be destroy'd.

That the Lives of all the People lost within Ten Years, according to the Estimate, which is made of Men and Women Slaves in *Algier*, amounts to several Thousand Millions.

That from the Example of *Paris*, where this Depopulation is least discern'd, the rest of the Kingdom must be extreamly dispeopl'd.

That he is very well inform'd, that there are fewer People in *Paris*, by a Third Part, than there were about Twenty Years ago, and that they live in extream Misery there, notwithstanding the Multitude of Coaches, and the great Court.

That the Houses, for the generality, still retain above half the Value of their ancient Hire; but

but that the Rent is ill paid, and several of the Houses stand empty; that the Tradesmen die there for Hunger.

That there are hardly any Lacquies, Clerks, Proctors, or young Barbers to be seen. as being all consum'd by the War; and that all the rest of the Cities and Towns of the Kingdom, are in a worse Condition.

That there may be still near Ten Millions of Souls in the Kingdom, and that within the last Ten Years, the Number has lessen'd between 4 and 5 Millions.

That by the Number of Parishes, which are Twenty Seven Thousand, compar'd with the Number of Men not marry'd, which are in the War, or in the Number of Collectors, that there ought to be 22 Men, and one Fourth in each Parish one with another.

That *France* can never recover it self, (tho' the Government should be chang'd) without a long Peace, and unless she abandon her Conquests and Usurpations; by reason the Manufactures are carry'd into Foreign Countries, the Half of the People destroy'd, the Money wasted, the Funds charg'd with more Debts than they are worth; because the vast Army of Toll-gatherers and Collectors is not dismiss'd; the Sale of Offices and Employments is not suppress'd; and because all those Officers drain'd, exhausted, and famish'd, will lie sucking the People to the very Marrow, as well as the Court; otherwise who can believe, tho' Trade were once again restor'd, that *France* can always raise the same Sums which she has done for a long Time, unless these Maxims of Injustice and Violence be restor'd, with which she is overwhelm'd.

That the Money is extreamly diminish'd in *France*: For that for a long Time, the King purchas'd the Alliances and Amities of all Princes, corrupted their Ministers and other Counsellors, paid large Pensions to make them declare for *France*, or only remain Neuters; expended upon Spies, both great ones, and those of lesser Note, considerable Sums; sent Armies out of the Kingdom into the Service of other Princes; purchas'd Cities and strong Holds, as *Dunkirk* and *Casal*, the Garrison of which Place stands him in a great deal of Money every Year, as also *Pigneroll*. The *Huguenots* have carry'd out Thirty Millions. The Horses sent for every Year out of *Germany*, *Switzerland*, and other Places, since the War, cost at least Six Millions every Year, each Horse brought from thence being valued at 20 Pistols a piece; for that there are no Breeds of Horses in the Kingdom, by reason of the incredible Poverty of the People, that cannot compass it to have Stocks before hand.

That in Gold Lace, Embroidery, Cloth of Gold, Fringes and Gilding, there are wasted in *France* above Ten Millions of Livers in that Metal, and in *England* more; adding withal this Sentence, *Ambitiosa Paupertate perit Gallia*. Thro' ambitious Poverty *France* is ruin'd: And in this is shewn the Blindness of the *English* Nation, who complain of the Transportation of their Money, and that it is scarce, while they themselves in Ten Years, destroy as much Silver by this Means, as there is Money in the Kingdom.

That all the Money which *France* raises by Contributions, does not exceed four or five Millions of *France*, which is not above the Fortieth or Fiftieth Part of her Expence.

That the Trade which remains behind, is very little.

That the Profit by Privateers is not considerable.

Lastly, that the War, beyond Comparison, does less Mischief to the Confederates than to *France*; That the Confederates, for the most Part, gain by this War; That *Germany* in general, draws great Advantages from it, tho' several Princes and States suffer by it; and that those Advantages advance to a considerable Value.

That the Advantages will far surmount the Disadvantages which *Holland* receives thereby; and that at length she will gain much more than she does at present, and will get a large Interest, by the principal Sums she now disburfes. That *Spain* will also be a Gainer, tho' she loses at present.

That the D. of *Savoy* will find his Satisfaction for that he loses, and will lose much less being united with the Confederates, than if he had clos'd with *Lewis XIV.* upon the Conditions which he propos'd; for that then he had been despoil'd past Recovery, in regard that *France* never keeps her Word. But that *England* gains more than any of the Confederates, tho' many People will not believe it.

That in Time of Peace, Ten Thousand *English*, as well Masters as Servants, travel into *France*, who spend three times as much as the Revenues of *Scotland* and *Ireland*; their Expence reckoned at 100 Livers Sterling a piece, one with another. They get, for the most part, above a Million Sterling by the Baubles of *Paris*; and that now they get but little by the Manufactures of Gold Lace, Silk, large Hats, *French* Glafs, Wooden Combs, Paper, Linnen, which are settl'd here by the Favour of the War;

War; by the Salt, Brandy, Sider and Beer which is made here; by the small Quantity of *French* Wine which is consum'd at present; by the several Fruits dry and green, and *French* Sweet-Meats, which are little esteem'd.

That *England* is, at this Day, much more Wealthy than *France*; and that if God had afflicted *England* with such a Government, and a King of *Lewis* the Fourteenth's Humour, she might do much more than *France* does now.

That therefore all Princes that are tempted to imitate that King in his Humours, to be a Conqueror and an Absolute Prince, ought rather to swallow Poison, and quit the World, than to suffer themselves to be over-rul'd by such barbarous and curst Passions.

That indeed, in some measure, *Lewis* XIV. was formerly excused for his Attacking *Mons* and *Nyssa*; as supposing him to have a good Correspondence, both in the one and the other, and that his Design was thereby, to re-establish or maintain the Reputation of his Great Power, of which he began to be somewhat doubtful; and to prevent his Credit from falling, as well among the then Rebels in *Ireland*, as among his own Subjects, and at *Rome*, where there was such disputing about the Election of a new Pope; and that he thought this would strike a Terror into the Confederates, especially the Duke of *Savoy*, who he troubles the most, and therefore would oblige him to make his Peace apart, and others after, or together with him. He was also willing to make the World believe, that the Congress at the *Hague*, of which he had Intelligence Eight Months before, did nothing astonish him. And therefore believing it was
high

high time for him to Attempt something, he pick'd out *Mons*, before any other in the *Low Countries*, and took all his Measures to Crown the Enterprize with Success. And the Reasons why he pitch'd upon *Mons* were these: Because it was a Place the most advanc'd toward *France*, and for that the Confederates would sooner make an Invasion of his Country on that side, than any other way; because it was a Place which fetch'd great Contributions out of *France*, and the Conquer'd Provinces, and for that being large and wealthy, it might serve to make a Magazine for K. *William's* Army; and because that if the Confederates were so far weaken'd, as to make a Peace to his Advantage the next Winter, he would rather keep it, than *Aeth*, *Oudenard*, or *Charleroy*, which he had been once already oblig'd to quit, to serve as a Bar to the *Spanish Low-Countries*; besides that, it is the Capital City of a large Province, which the Conquest of that Town would reduce wholly under his Subjection. As for *Nyssæ*, assuredly it was Bought and Sold; for that otherwise it would have been a foolish Attempt to have attack'd it in the Heart of Winter, being a Place impregnable; and that the Traitors were agreed, to cover their foul Play, to fire the Powder, under the Favour of the first Bombs that *Catinat* should throw into the Town; by which means they should take the *French* Money, yet appear honest Men. That as for the Circumstances and the Soldiers kill'd by the Accident, it might all be so manag'd, as if the whole had happen'd fortuitously, the better to cover their Intrigues.

Therefore 'tis presumed, that *France* went the best way to try, whether she could by these
and

means separate the Allies one from the other; and farther, that there is no Question to be made, but that *France*, by other Intrigues, supported with Money, will do her utmost to make a Peace the next Winter; for that otherwise she is ruin'd for ever, notwithstanding all the outward Haughtiness she carries in her Looks, and that it is the Interest of the Allies, not to be too hasty, but to stand resolutely upon their Terms.

True it is, that notwithstanding the Convulsions that threatned his Kingdom during his Minority, yet *Mazarine* having by a Conjunction with *Cromwell*, surmounted all those Difficulties, much encreased his Power, and enlarged his Conquests by new Acquisitions: (For *Cromwell*, whom for his Pains *Mazarine* was wont to call a *Fortunate Fool*,) gaping after the Golden Mines of *Peru*, to supply his empty Coffers, contrary to all the Rules of *English* Policy, was altogether for pulling down the distant Monarchy of *Spain*, and advancing the neighbouring Power of *France*. *Mazarine* had the Length of his Foot; and therefore resolv'd to make the best of him, by pampering up his Gold-craving Humour, and fostering his Animosities against the *Spaniard*. And so cunning was *Mazarine*, that he granted the heedless Usurper whatever he demanded, considering that when *Cromwell* had assisted him to do his Work, in bringing under the House of *Austria*, and by that means casting the Balance of *Europe* on the *French* side, he should afterwards have Leisure enough to recover what he had seem'd to part with; which was afterwards too unhappily verified by the easie regaining of *Dunkirk*. Thus *Cromwell* being the first that rais'd the *Grandeur* of the *French*, to which he
contri-

contributed not a little by the War which he made at the Time with *Spain*; the two Princes that succeeded him, were so wheedled and bewitched by the *French* King's specious Pretences and fair Promises, that they did, tho' undesignedly, too much assist him to get up to the Pinnacle of Universal Dominion; as if this Most *Christian* King had made use of Charms and Philters to fascinate their Eyes and Ears, neither to see themselves so often abus'd, nor to hear the Advices of their most faithful Counsellors.

How happy was the King of *England*, at his first Restauration, belov'd by his People, ador'd by his Parliament, and in perfect Union with his Neighbours the *Dutch*! What might not those two Potentates in close Confederacy have done? *France* trembled at the Thoughts of it, and despair'd of grasping Universal Empire, unless she could divide this solid Opposition, so pernicious to her soaring Projects.

The *French* King well understood that the King of *England*, would he but put himself to the Trouble of knowing his own Strength, and making a true Use of it, was in a Condition not only to mediate, but to force a Peace among all the Potentates of *Europe*. For by a strict Union with the *Hollanders* he was absolute Master of the whole *Ocean*, and consequently of the Riches of the whole World; insomuch that the Mines of *America* were not safe to the King of *Spain*, but by his Permission; and by sending to the weaker Side the Assistance of his Land Forces, formidable as well for their Courage as their Discipline, he was able to have turn'd the Scales of Victory which way soe'er he pleas'd.

Now

Now then in regard that by the common Rules of Policy and Fore-sight, the *French* King could not but be well assur'd that whatsoever Princes he assail'd, the other would be as certain in the Weakness of his Condition, to have recourse to the Two Grand Fortresses of *Europe*, Potent at Sea, and no less powerful by Land, to prevent the Ravage of his Territories; whether the Dictates of *Achitophelism*, and *Matchavillism*, might not in some measure justify the Most *Christian* King, in pursuing the best Methods he could, to separate such a Conjunction, so prejudicial to his aspiring Ambition and Self-Interest, may not be so much, perhaps the Question; but whether he is not to be look'd upon as the worst of the whole Race of *Cain*, and as a Mischief and Pest which all Mankind ought to eschew; who, besides the most unchristian-like Ways by which he sought to subdue his Enemies, treated his most faithful Friends and Allies with that Infidelity, that Treachery, that base and scornful Ingratitude as he did the King of *England*. By which it was plain, that all the Kindnesses and Remuneration which the Most *Christian Lewis* intended the King of *England* for all his Services, was only that he should have been the last, that for all his Services and Assistances given to the *French* Crown, to the over-sight of his own Interest, and his Peoples Welfare, should have been rewarded with Invasion and Conquest.

To make this Separation therefore between *England* and *Holland*, the most subtle *Mercuries* of *France* were sent abroad with their Silver Wands, to lull the British *Argos* asleep, and prevent his watching over the *Hesperian* Garden of
European

European Liberty; or rather with a deeper Intoxication of *Aurum Potabile* Draughts, to allure his Ministers into a down-right Falsification of their Trusts. Nor was it possible for all of them to escape, being befascinated, or to resist those Golden Temptations; but, like People that must go thro' with what they have taken Money to perform, presently several Artificial Insinuations of Injuries receiv'd from the *Dutch*, as to *Amboyna*, and the Fishery, were whisper'd about in *England*, while at the same Time the Freedom of the Sea, and the Preservation of Trade, were with the same Subtilty to be disputed in *Holland*, on purpose to exasperate the Jealousie of those People. Things that might so easily have been adjusted where there had been the least Condescensions to Reason, that it was undoubtedly above the Reach of most Mens Understanding, that the Policy of *Great Britain* should prefer a trivial Quarrel about *Sprats* and *Herrings*, (for the Business of *Amboyna* had been compounded long before,) above the common Safety of Three Nations, and that a Protestant Kingdom, without being constrained thereto by some unavoidable Necessity, should ever fight with so much Rage and Fierceness for the Destruction of the Protestant Interest: Or that *English* Counsellors should advise their Prince to run the Fortune of a *French* King, without any rational Prospect of Advantage to himself. But it was plain that the Most *Christian* King was then laying his most *Unchristian* Trains for the Destruction of *England*; and as palpable it was, that the *Dutch* War was design'd by the *French* to ruin the Naval Strength of both Nations, and thereby to break the Balance of *Europe*. It was

a Mystery beyond unfolding, that the Chief Ministers of *England* should take such strange Measures, so to mislead their Sovereign, that in order to the making good his Title to the Kingdom of *France*, he should enable the *French* King to invade all Christendom, and to extend his Empire beyond all Bounds; or that to secure to himself and his People the Sovereignty of the Seas, he should with so much Industry endeavour to force all the *Dutch* Ships, with all their Naval Power, into the Arms of the *French*, and rejoyce at their Victories, as if by conquering the Land the *French* did not at the same Time become Masters of the Havens, Rivers, and Fleets of the *Dutch*. And yet such was the vast Predominancy which *French* Treason, and the hidden Conspiracies of *French* Counsels had over these great Politicians, and the Ascendent which they had over the King of *England*, that he was so kind to the *French* King, for setting him together by the Ears with the *Dutch*, that he sent him his Vice-Admirals, and other Sea-Officers, to encourage and promote the setting out of his Fleets, and in Pity of their want of Experience in Sea Affairs, took his raw Seamen by the Hand, train'd them up in his own Fleets, among the best of his Seamen, and taught them that Skill which the *English* had been many Ages a learning; and all this in hopes to enable the *French* King to assist him in beating his most secure Friends; wherein the *French*, according to their wonted Treachery, fail'd him too, when they were put to the Trial.

All the World would have thought the King should not have so soon forgot the *Punic* Faith of *France* in their Kindness to his Person, while
he

he was abroad in Exile among them; or if then they might pretend the Interest of their Kingdom, and palliate their faithless and inhumane Dealing with him by Necessity of Self-preservation; yet no such Necessity constrain'd him to forget the *French* King's opposing his Restauration with so much Violence as he did; and his caballing with his greatest Enemies to keep him out of his Kingdom, more especially since he was then so sensible of it, when it was recent in his Memory; that upon his coming into *England*, he commanded away Monsieur *Bourdeaux* the *French* Ambassadour, and would not suffer him to come into his Presence.

But the Most *Christian* King knew full well how to work himself again into the King of *England*'s Favour, and at length by throwing a *French Delilah* into his Embraces, quite cut off the Locks of the *British Sampson*. All on a sudden *France* seem'd to be remov'd into *England*; nothing but *French* Baubles and Gugaws pleased our *English* Gentry: A *French* Faction prevailing at Court, *French* Mountebanks for Physicians, *French* Fashions, *French* Hats, *French* Lackeys, *French* Fiddlers, *French* Dancing-Masters, *French* Tooth-drawers, *French* Barbers, *French* Air in our very Looks, *French* Legs, *French* Compliments, *French* Grimaces, and *French* Debauchery to fit us for *French* Slavery: And had the *French* Disease been then unknown in *England*, 'tis to be questioned whether it would not have been entertained with as general a Consent as the *Schechemites* submitted to the Pain of Circumcision, tho' to the Hazard of being all destroy'd by the *French*

Simeon and *Levi*, while fore and drivelling under the Distemper. Nor is it to be doubted but the *French* Christianity would have as easily made Trial of such a Design as they did of the rest of their Tricks, had they thought it would have taken Effect.

It is well known, that before the first *Dutch* War was entred into, the King of *England* sought to make Alliances with *France* and *Spain*, but the *Spaniards* were so cock-sure of the *French* Promises, that they would not make any Approaches to Friendship with *England*, without the giving up of *Dunkirk*, *Tangier* and *Jamaica*.

As for the *French*, a Project of a Treaty was offer'd them, and promoted with all Earnestness by the Lord *H——s* at *Paris*, but it was plainly discern'd that the principal Designs of the Most *Christian* King was only to draw the King of *England* into such an Alliance, as might advance his Design upon *Spain*; and therefore so soon as he had set the *Dutch* and us together by the Ears, and saw that thereby the Balance of *Europe* was broken, he no longer minded Alliance with *England*: But after many Proposals of Leagues, and many Arts used to heighten the Jealousies between us and the *Hollanders*, he at last sided with the *Dutch*, tho' to so little Purpose, that his Intentions plainly appeared to be no other, than to see the Two most potent Obstacles of his Ambition destroy one another, to the End he might with less Opposition invade his Neighbours, and encrease his own Naval Strength. Nay, the Juggle went much farther, for that in the Heat of all the War, he still kept Negotiations on

on Foot, and made Overtures and Proposals of Peace, by Means of the Queen-Mother, whom in the End he so far, and so treacherously deluded, as to ascertain her, and by her Means to assure the King of *England*, her Son, that the *Dutch* would not set out any Fleet the ensuing Summer, and yet underhand press'd the *Dutch* with all the Vigour and Importunity imaginable to fit out their Men of War again, with a Promise, rather than fail, that he would joyn his Fleet with theirs against the *English*. Now it was upon a Supposal that the Most *Christian* King was at that time a good Christian and true to his Word, in pursuing his pretended Proposals of Peace; and upon that faithless *French* Paroll it was, that the King of *England* put forth no Fleet to Sea that Year, upon which followed that fatal Surprize of our Ships at *Chatham*; than which a greater Dishonour never happened to the Nation since the Memory of History. But at last, as we had been oblig'd to the Craft and Treachery for the War and the Shame we received by it, so we were glad to receive the Peace that ensued from his Favour, which was concluded at *Breda* between *England*, *France*, and *Holland*.

By this Treaty of *Breda*, the *French* were oblig'd to restore *St. Christophers* to the *English* in the same Manner and Form as is express'd in the Articles; but instead of performing their Engagement according to the true Intent and literal Meaning of the Articles, they from Time to Time upon several unjust and frivolous Pretences, deluded and delay'd the *English* Commissioners that were sent to take Possession of it; 'till finding there was a Necessity to

comply with us in so small a Matter, while we were preparing to venture a Second Quarrel in their Behalf, it was at last surrendred, after Four Years baffling, to Sir *Charles Wheeler*. However, to shew the Perfidiousness of *French* dealing, before they deliver'd it they destroyed all the Plantations, laid the whole Island waste, and left it in a worse Condition than if it had never been planted. And as if the Seizure and detaining of the King of *England*'s Territories had not been sufficient, they interrupted also the Trade of his Subjects in those Parts, and assuming to themselves the Sovereignty of those Seas, would not suffer any Ships but their own, to sail either by or about those Islands; but as if it had been criminal so to do, took and confiscated several Vessels upon that Account: From all which a Question will arise easie to be resolv'd, whether any thing be recorded of the old *Carthaginians* more perfidious than this; and whether the King of *England* might not have expected more honest and Christian dealing from the *unbelieving Turk*, than from the Most *Christian King*.

'Tis true, that after the Peace of *Breda*, the King of *England* was at Leisure to consider how the *French King* had abus'd him, by engaging him in a War with his Protestant Neighbours, and how he had seemingly taken their Parts to prolong the War; that while they were battering, and bruising, and weakning one another, he might have the fairer Opportunity, in Violation of all the most solemn and Sacred Oaths and Treaties, to invade the *Spanish Netherlands*; and observing with what a rapid Torrent of Victory he bore down all before him,
thought

thought fit to interpose before the Flame that consumed his next Neighbour, should throw its Sparks over the Water; and therefore sent in- to *Holland* to invite them to a nearer Alliance, and to enter into such farther Counsels as were most proper to stop the Fury of the *French* King; which Offer being by the *Dutch* embraced with open Arms, a defensive League was concluded in Five Days Time between *Holland* and *England*, together with another for the repressing the farther Progress of the *French* Armies in the *Spanish* Netherlands: In which the *Smeeds* afterwards making a third Party concern'd, gave it the Name of the Triple League.

This was no way pleasing to the *French* King, however for a while he disssembled his Resentment of the Affront, tho' from the first Moment he resolved to make Use of all his Charms, and Golden Magick to dissolve this Triple Knot, whatever it cost him.

To this Purpose the *Dutchess* of *Orleance* is said by the *French* to be sent over hither, believing no Instrument so proper as the King of *England's* own Sister to prevail with her Brother. King *Charles* met her at *Dover*, where their Endearments one to another were so much the more reciprocally prevailing, by how much it happens that Princes more rarely than private Persons enjoy their Relations. And when they do, yet their kind Interviews are many times attended with some fatal Disaster; of which tho' there was no Appearance here in *England*, yet the first News we heard of her upon her Return to *France*, was, that she was dead: However the Affair was so dexterously

managed, that a *French* Ambassadour was forthwith dispatch'd out of *France*, and an *English* Ambassadour sent to *Paris*, and as the *French* gave out, a private League was clapt up, to the Ruin of the Triple Alliance, to all the Heighth of Intimacy and Dearness; as if upon dissecting the Princess, there had some State *Philter* been found in her Bowels, or that a Reconciliation with *France* could not have been celebrated with a less Sacrifice than that of the Blood-Royal of *England*. This supposed Treaty was a Work of Darkness, not to be div'd into a great while, but afterwards the *French* King caus'd it to be made publick, as we shall see by and by.

'Tis true, the Knowledge of this was of great Importance to *England*; but the Discovery was the most apparent Demonstration in the World of *French* Perfidiousness, so enormous as it could not be imagined to have entered in the Breast of a Most *Christian* King, so treacherously to expose the Secrets of his dearest Confederate, after he had drawn him in by all the Assurances of his Assistance imaginable: And the Reasons that induc'd him to make the Detection were no less impious, tho' agreeable to the Practice of the *French* King, who after he has made it his Business to decoy in Princes that lend an easie Ear to his Enchantments, or with too much Facility suffer themselves to be overcome by his alluring Engagements, into any unseemly and dishonourable Undertaking, believes he has them then safely tack'd to his Interests, and that they will not dare to flinch from his Designs for Fear of being exposed to their People, which he takes
Care

Care in due Time to have artificially insill'd into their Ears; a Maxim of Christianity which lies conceal'd from all other Men, but the most *Christian* of Princes: And thus it was, that the *French King* having amus'd the Emperour with the Noise of a Treaty, and at the same time brought the *Turk* into *Hungary*, to joyn the Malecontents, to excite his private Confederate the King of *England* to follow his Steps in Government bare-fac'd, causes a little Book to be Printed and Published, with the Privilege *Du Roy*, entitled, *The History of the Transactions of this Age*, and therein ordered the *Dover Treaty* (as they call'd it) to be inserted, and to that Purpose furnish'd his *Historiographer* with Notes and Directions by the Hands of his Secretary *Colbert*, to the end that the King of *England*, being truly, as he design'd, set out in his Colours, and despairing of being ever after trusted by his People, might be enforced to take such Resolutions as *Despair* and *Fury* should inspire him withall, to the Destruction of those he had so highly disoblig'd; there being nothing more than the Subversion of *England* which the *French King* aim'd at. 'Tis true, he was so kind as to recall the *Book* upon the loud Complaint of the King of *England's* Ambassadour; however it was an apparent Demonstration to all the World, how little Trust or Reliance there was in *French* Amity, and plainly shews that there is no Way to bind this mighty *Sampson* by Oath, Promises, Treaties, or by any other the most Religious Ties and Considerations, which are no more to him than Spiders Webs, but by an absolute clip-

ping off the Locks of his Power, and disabling him so as never to rise more.

But to return to the *Triple League*: In the end the *French* King by his wicked Policy so contrived the Matter, as to cause a new Rupture betwixt the *Dutch* and the *English*; and as if he had intended to be Master of Iniquity, and to make the King of *England* as bad as himself; nothing would suffice 'till he had prevail'd with the King to attack the *Dutch Smyrna* Fleet returning home, and dreaming of no such Matter; which, as it was contrary to the *Genius* of the *English* Nation, and to the Nature and Gentle Disposition of the King of *England* himself, is wholly to be attributed to the Wiles and wicked Temptations of the Most *Christian* Prince, who never ceas'd pealing it into the King of *England's* Ears, that if he could but master the Wealth of the *Smyrna* Fleet, he should never want Money again. And being thus betray'd by wheedling *French* Hallucination, what can the *French* expect but the Severity of *England's* just Revenge; wherein we may venture with the greater Hopes of Success, as being engaged with all in the common Cause of *Christendom's* Tranquillity.

Add to this, that when the *French* King thought the King of *England* was engaged so far by the *Smyrna Attack*, as that he must needs go forward, the Most *Christian* King then openly declared, 'twas none of his Quarrel, and that he only engaged in it to assist the King of *England* meerly in respect to His Person: By which Means the King of *England* was again betrayed and necessitated to declare War first,
and

and to expect the Assistance of his Confederate afterwards.

Nor is it less observable, that the *French* King, in Conjunction with a Protestant Prince, to render him odious among all the States and Princes of *Europe*, whether Protestant or *Roman Catholick*, gave it out that the War against the United Provinces was a War of Religion, undertaken meerly for the Propagation of the *Roman Catholick* Faith, and as the *French* Minister expressed it in a solemn Speech to the Emperour's Council, that the *Hollanders* being Hereticks, who had forsaken God, all good Christians were bound to unite to their Extirpation. To confirm which the more, the *French* Ministers, no doubt not contrary to their Instructions, declar'd and assur'd many Princes, that to let all the World see how far their Master was from any such ambitious Designs as were laid to his Charge, and to satisfy the World that he entred into the War meerly out of a Religious Zeal, and for the Glory of God; he was ready to part with all his Conquests, and to restore to the *Hollanders* all the Towns he had won from them, if they would but re-establish the true Worship they had banish'd out of their Dominions. Such is the Most *Christian* King, who scruples not to falsify with Heaven, so it may but support and colour his Falshood upon Earth.

Well, the Most *Christian* King, having by his Ungodly Policy thus engaged us in a bloody War with *Holland*, pursues his own Design by Land with all the Vigour imaginable, in so much that the Swiftneſs and Force of his Motion seem'd to be somewhat Supernatural; but
all

all this while he leaves us to do our own Work by Sea. 'Tis true, his Fleet appeared among us, and made up a third Squadron under White Colours, but under that Colour of Innocence, they thought it such a Crime to shed Blood, that they always kept out of Harms Way: Rather they did us more Mischief than good, in Regard that when our Admirals encountered the Enemy in Hopes of their Assistance, they always left the *English* in the Lurch to bear the Brunt of the Engagement against the superior Numbers, which it was their Duty to have attack'd. A Piece of Treachery so insupportable, that only they who suffer'd it would have endur'd it, by which the whole *English* Navy was absolutely betray'd by a faithless Allie, and by which the Lives of great Numbers of the *English* were lost, which by their Conjunction might have been sav'd. So that it was apparent that those Sacred Ships of the *French* were a Sort of *Noli me Tangeres*, not sent to assist their Confederates, but only to sound the *English* Seas, to spy our Ports, to learn our Building, to contemplate our Way of Fighting, to consume ours, and preserve their own Navy, to encrease their Commerce, and to order all so, that the Two great Naval Powers of *Europe* having crush'd one another, he might remain sole Lord of the Ocean, and by Consequence Master of all the Trade of the World.

Thus it happen'd, that after Three Engagements of ours against the *Dutch Fleet* in one Summer, while nothing was tenable at Land against the *French*, it seem'd that as to us every thing at Sea was impregnable; which was
not

not to be attributed either to Want of Courage or Conduct, but was only to be imputed to our unfortunate Conjunction with the perfidious *French*, like the Misfortunes that happen to Men by being in ill Company.

This Misbehaviour of the *French* rais'd the Indignation of the *English* to such a Pitch, that the Parliament resolving to give no more Money for the Continuance of the War, the King was perswaded to make a Peace with *Holland*; which was concluded accordingly, toward the latter end of the Year 1673.

And to shew that the King of *England* had all the Reason in the World so to do, we are to take a little farther Prospect of the Uprightness of the Most *Christian* King to his Friend and Allie, who had at such a vast Expence of Treasure espous'd his Quarrel.

For the *French* Army having passed the *Wale*, caus'd such a General Consternation all over *Holland*, and the Confusion they were in was such, they could hardly resolve whether to yield or continue to defend themselves. The States therefore sent away several of their Deputies, some to the King of *England*, others to the Most *Christian* of Princes, to know of both upon what Conditions they would be willing to make Peace and Agreement.

Those that were sent to the King of *England* (to shew how justly he intended to have dealt with the *French*, or whether it were out of Fear of giving him any Jealousy or Offence) were met as far as *Gravesend*, and being forbid their Approach to *White-Hall*, were convey'd to *Hampton-Court*, and there, as it were, honourably confin'd till His Majesty of *England* could

could hear from the Most *Christian* King, whether those Deputies might be admitted.

But the other Deputies no sooner arriv'd at the *French Court*, but Two Secretaries of State were sent to them, who, without farther Delay, demanded in the first Place what Power they had to Treat; and next, what Proposals they had to make in order to a speedy Peace.

The Deputies answered, they came not to make Proposals, but to receive Conditions from His Most *Christian* Majesty, as it better became them. Upon which, to hasten them to a Conclusion, the *French Ministers* told them in short, that whatever his Most *Christian* Majesty had conquer'd in their Dominions, he look'd upon as his own already, and therefore would not part with it, without an Equivalent, as well for what he might farther subdue, before the Conclusion of the Treaty, as for what he had already in Possession.

With this Answer Monsieur *De Groet*, one of the *Holland* Deputies, posted back to the *Hague*, and with no less Speed was sent back again with full Instructions and Authority, jointly with the rest of his Colleagues, to treat and conclude a Peace with them.

No sooner was he return'd, but Monsieur *Louvois*, one of the *French* King's Secretaries, gave the Deputies a Draught of a Treaty, or rather the Pretensions of the King his Master; upon the granting of which, he was both willing and ready to return to his former Amity with the States, and to conclude a firm Peace with them.

Upon which, two Things are observable. First, that the Conditions themselves were such,

such, which if granted, would have made the *French* King as perfecty Master of the Country, as if he had conquer'd it by the Sword. And in the Second Place, that in all the Articles there was not the least Word relating to *England*, nor any more Notice taken of the King of *Great Britain*, than if he had not been at all concern'd in the War.

And farther to demonstrate that it was never the Design of the Most *Christian* Prince, that the King of *England* should be a Gainer by the War, Monsieur *De Groet* declared at his Second Return to the *Hague*, when he carried the King's Project along with him, that when the *French* Ministers were ask'd what was to be done with *England*, they made Answer, that the States might do as they pleas'd with *England*, and come off as cheap as they could, for that the *French* were not bound by their Treaty to procure them any Advantages. A great Happiness in the mean Time for the King of *England* to be engaged in such a War, with such a false and treacherous Allie; for it is plain, that the *Dutch* had no sooner signify'd their Desires, but the Most *Christian* Prince had it presently in his Head to have cheated the King of *England*. For could the Most *Christian* King in that same dreadful Consternation of the *Dutch*, have got the Possession of the United Provinces by the more concise and less expensive Way of Treaty, he would soon have found an Expedient to have defrauded his dear Confederate of any Share in them. Which was the Reason the Most *Christian* Sophister spurr'd on the consternated *Dutch* with so much Hast, and with such a clandestine Speed pursu'd his
Ad-

Advantage, that the King of *England* might not have a Moments Time to provide for himself.

But the King of *England* having serv'd the Most *Christian* Prince more justly in his kind, by a separate Peace with *Holland*, and the sudden Advancement of His Highness the Prince of *Orange*, attended by the Fall of the *De-Witts*, quash'd all the lofty *Frenchman's* Hopes of gaining, either by Treaty or by Conquests, what his Thoughts aspir'd to. So that now, as if he had been arriv'd at the *Tropick* of his Fortune, he was forc'd to roll back again with the same Swiftneſs as he aſcended to the Height of his Succeſs. However that he might not loſe his old Wont, as a Mark of his Diſpleaſure, and as it were to puniſh the *English* Nation for his Diſappointments, notwithstanding the Peace that was ſtill firm between the Two Crowns, he let looſe his Privateers among the *English* Merchants, to that Degree of *Treaty-Violation*, that from that Time for near Two Years together (Peace all the while, if *French* Peace may be call'd *Peace*) there was no Security of Commerce or Navigation, but at Sea they murder'd, plunder'd, made Prize, and confiscated all they met with. The *French* Pickaropns lay before the Mouths of our Harbours, hover'd all along our Coaſts, took our Ships in the very Ports, ſo that we were in a Manner block'd up by Water. And if any made Application at the Sovereign Port of the Most *Chriſtian Solymán* for Juſtice, they were moſt insolently baffled, except ſome few, who by Sir *E. L's* Intereſt were redeem'd upon ſomewhat eaſier Composition. For evidence

of which the following Papers, return'd by certain Members of the Privy Council, in Pursuance of the King's Order, as also the Register which was annex'd to it, of the several Vessels that were then complain'd of to be taken, are a Memorial not easie to be cancell'd.

So loud and so thick were the daily Complaints of the *English* Merchants, of their Losses sustain'd by the *French* Privateers, in the Year 1674. and 1676. notwithstanding the Publick Amity between the Two Nations, that the King referr'd the Examination thereof to several Lords of the Committee of Trade, who upon due Examination of the Affair, observ'd that the Petition of the Merchants, presented to the King the 31st of *May*, 1676. was grounded upon these Heads.

First, That their Ships and Goods, tho' mann'd according to the Act of Navigation, and furnish'd with all necessary Passes, were daily seiz'd, carried into *Dunkirk*, *Calais*, *Sherbrook* and other Ports, the Masters and Owners kept close Prisoners, to force them by Hardship to abuse their Owners, or else for the Relief of their own private Necessities (being commonly stripp'd and plunder'd) to enter into the Privateers Service, which great Numbers had done with very pernicious Effects.

Secondly, That the Delay and Charge of prosecuting the Law in *France* did commonly make the Owners become Losers of half the Value, whenever they were successful.

Thirdly, That there was no Reparation ever gotten from Privateers for what they plunder'd

der'd and embezzl'd, which made them freely seize upon all they met, and perpetually molest the Navigation of the King's Subjects; for which Reasons they humbly implor'd His Majesty's Relief and Protection.

Thereupon the King was pleas'd to command that some of his Frigates should sail forth to clear the Coast of those Privateers, seize them, and bring such as had offended to make Restitution. Moreover the King order'd, that the Lords of the Committee of Trade should take good Notice of the particular Cases and Complaints depending, that such as were of Weight and Merit, might be fitted for his gracious Recommendation for Relief: As also to survey the whole Number of Seizures which had been made upon his Subjects, in order to lay before his Majesty what Hardships had been sustain'd at Sea, and what sort of Justice had been administer'd in *France*.

In Obedience to which Command, they brought in a List of such Ships as had been seiz'd to the Number of Fifty Three, and the Cases wherein the Owners had repair'd to the King for Relief. Which, as in the General it suppos'd a Justice in such Complaints, so it left a Suspicion of great Hardships in the Methods of Redress; besides that the Number of Captives was no small Proof of the Facility of Condemnation.

While the Lords were in the midst of this Examination, there was presented to the Committee, as it was receiv'd from Monsieur *Courtin* the *French* Ambassadour, an Extract of a Letter from Monsieur *Colbert* to Monsieur *Pompe*, one
of

of the *French* King's Secretaries, dated *June*
28th, 1676. in these Words.

" **F**OR what concerns the Prizes, it would
" be a difficult Matter to answer all the
" Cases contain'd in Monsieur *Courtin's* Letter.
" What I can say to it is, That the Coun-
" cil for Marine Affairs sits every Day at St.
Germain's.

" That all Privateers and Reclaimers know it.

" That Sir *Ellis Leighton*, nominated by the
" *English* Ambassadour, hath always Notice of
" it, and is always present at it.

" That not a Week passes, but I give him
" Two or Three Audiences, and oftentimes
" I send for him on Purpose.

" That his Reasons are all read, reported
" and committed; as likewise are all Petiti-
" ons of Reclaimers, and I shall tell you more,
" I acquaint him with the Reasons upon which
" Judgment is given.

" In giving Judgment, all Vessels which
" have any Appearance of being *English* are
" releas'd, and very often, and almost always,
" tho' we are satisfied that the Ships are *Dutch*,
" yet they are releas'd because there is some
" Appearance of their being *English*, and eve-
" ry thing is judg'd favourable for that Na-
" tion. And it is no less true that all Ships
" that are taken are *Dutch* Built, that they
" never were in *England*, that the Masters and
" all the Equipage are *Dutch*, that the Cock-
" ets are for Persons unknown, and which are
" not oft-times so much as nam'd; that they
" carry with them only some Sea Briefs from
" *Waterford*, or some other Town of *Ireland*;

“ that the whole Ship’s Company depofes they
 “ were ſent to *Holland*; that we have found
 “ on Board Three or Four Veffels, Bills of
 “ Accompt, by which it is ſeen that the *En-*
 “ *gliſh* took Two, Three, and Four *per Cent.*
 “ for owning Ships, and tho’ it is impoſſible
 “ to avoid confiscating them, yet theſe are the
 “ Ships which make ſuch a Noiſe in *England*.

To which the Lords of the Committee upon
 ſerious Examination, by Way of Answer re-
 preſented to the King, That their Sentiments
 of the Matter were quite different from what
 was pretended by the *French*; for that they un-
 derſtood that when the *Engliſh* Ships were car-
 ried into the Ports of *France*, many of the ‘Ma-
 riners complain’d of ill Uſage, and ſome of
 Torment, their Papers being ſeiz’d, and their
 Perſons under Reſtraint, ’till all the Examinati-
 ons were ready prepar’d; and that then all their
 Writings were ſent up to the Privy Council at
 St. *Germain*s, where Judgment was definitive-
 ly given, and ſeldom any Reaſons for the Con-
 demnation mention’d in the Decree, and ne-
 ver any Appeal or Reviſion admitted; and whe-
 ther that were the Tenderneſs, or the Juſtice
 tended by the *French*, they could not tell: But
 they appeal’d to the Ambaſſadour *Monſieur*
Courtin himſelf, whether the Method of pro-
 ceeding in *England* had not been quite other-
 wiſe; and therefore that the different Methods
 of Juſtice and Clemency in *England*, might have
 entitled His Majeſty to a different Acknow-
 ledgement, and more advantageous Effects from
 the *French*.

That

That as to the latter Part of the Paper, it seem'd to contain very harsh Imputations upon the Trade of His Majesty's Subjects; and that only from some ill Practices perhaps found out, general Rules were made, which having enter'd the Thoughts of some eminent Ministers, that wonder'd that notwithstanding the frequent and multiply'd Recommendations of his Majesty for Justice, the Event of the *French Trials* should prove so unfortunate; that if his Majesty would but cast his Eye upon the Causes annex'd, he would soon see.

Whether, as it was imputed, all the Ships taken were *Dutch* Built.

Whether they were all such as never were in *England*.

Whether all the Masters and Mariners were *Dutch*.

Whether the Cockets were for Persons unknown, and oftentimes not nam'd.

Whether in the whole List there was any more than one Ship from *Waterford*, any more than Six from the rest of all *Ireland*, or so much as one from *Scotland*.

Whether it were credible that all the Ship's Company should swear they were bound for *Holland*, when so many were taken coming from *Holland*.

On the other side, His Majesty would find in the List how many were *English* Built, taken with *English* Colours, *English* Mariners, *English* Owners; some of them known to His Majesty, and to whom the best Papers His Majesty could sign, or the Treaties requir'd were given all in vain.

So that if the Case were in the General quite different from what in the General is represented, they hop'd it was no Crime for His Majesty's Subjects to make some Noise in *England*, when they're damnified, and see their Goods taken from them by Violence, and that Violence rather justify'd than redress'd by Law.

Wherefore considering that the Root of all these Disorders arose from the Violence and Rapine of the *French* Capers, who were to be look'd upon as Disturbers of the Publick Quiet, and Enemies of the good Friendship between the Two Crowns; they were humbly of Opinion that His Majesty had just Occasion from the Injuries past, and those which were then depending, and which every Day encreas'd, to make a serious Representation of all to the Most *Christian* King, and not only to press for some better Method of repairing the Grievances mentioned, but to insist upon the calling in of all the *French* Privateers; or else that His Majesty ought to do right, and give Defence to his Subjects, from all the Insolencies which they so frequently met with. This was sign'd.

<i>Anglesey,</i>	<i>Finch C.</i>
<i>Bath,</i>	<i>Bridgewater,</i>
<i>Craven,</i>	<i>H. Coventry,</i>
<i>J. Ernle,</i>	<i>G. Carteret.</i>

I might here add the List it self, by which it plainly appears, that contrary to Monsieur *Colbert's* Allegations, the Ships so taken were all either *English* built, or Foreigners made free, freighted by *English* Merchants, own'd by *English* Men, and mann'd with *English*, with
Cock-

Cockets and Bills of Lading to *English*. But 'tis sufficient for me to shew, that the Ministers and the Masters are *Christians* alike, *Plunderers* and *Robbers*, not only of Imperial Territories and Royal Dominions, but *Beasts* of Prey, that turn the Seas into a Desert, to gorge their voracious Appetites upon the Estates of private Persons; and that upon the Account their *Injustice* and *Rapines* so wickedly and unjustly practised upon the People of *England*, no Nation under Heaven can have Reasons more allowable on their Side to justify a War with *France*, than *England* has, for the many *Dishonours*, *Injuries*, and *Affronts* so ungratefully done us, in recompence of all the Kindness and great Services done them from Time to Time.

For what greater Kindness could there be, than to furnish the *Aspiring Monarch* with a continually recruited Body of Ten Thousand of our *English* Youth, whose daring Bravery and Courage made oftentimes a Rape upon Victory it self, to force her on his Side, and rescu'd once his whole Army from Destruction, when in Consternation, and pursu'd by the *Imperialists*, upon the Fall of *Turenne*? Yet when by the Importunity of the *Parliament*, they were recall'd out of his Service, instead of fairly dismissing them, well pay'd, for *Dunkirk* or *Calais*, from thence to cross over for *Dover*, which was their direct Way; they were sent thro' *Burgundy*, thro' *Liomois*, and so thro' the Provinces that lead to the Ports of *Guyenne*, that so the *French* might have Time to debauch the Officers and Soldiers. In short, the Soldiers who since their being in *France*, had been accusom'd to drink Wine, finding themselves in

a Country where it was almost as plentiful as Water, would not cross the Sea to go home and drink Beer, but took Pay under the Captains of the *French* Army in *Catalonia*, who were for that Purpose posted in their Way. As for such of the Officers as had nothing to lose in their own Country, they were likewise debauch'd after the same Manner, and dispers'd at the same Time in the Regiment of *Fustenburg*, which was in the Garrison of *Perpignan*: So that when the *English* arriv'd at the Place where they were to embark, they were not the Tenth of what they should have been, had *France* dealt faithfully in the Business.

Thus we have run thro' the Treacheries and Infidelities of the *French* in Reference to *England*. There is no Question, but much more might have been said; however, here is enough to shew that there can be no Safety in the Friendship of a Prince, who makes it his Study to be injurious in all his Actions, and faithless in all his Promises: *Mendaciis & fallaciis tanquam præclaris Artibus gaudens*. But such is the Mischief of that pernicious Vice, Desire of too much Glory, that it constrains a Man to be perfidious, as it was said of *Cneus Domitius*; *Nimia Gloria Cupiditas perfidum existere coegit*. And this was a Maxim among the Ancients, that Fidelity, like the Soul, when it has once left a Man, never returns again: And therefore with such a one, *Bellum suspecta Pace tutius est*.

Now let us look abroad, where we shall find the Most *Christian* of Princes, straddling over Violations of Oaths, by another Name call'd *Perjuries*, and all the Laws and Bounds of Justice which

which God and Man have provided against the Inundations of Violence, to grasp the Universal Monarchy of *Europe*. There you shall find him Invading, Burning, Spoiling, Plundering, Sacking, and Depopulating the Territories and Dominions of his peaceable *Christian* Neighbours, *hewing* out his Way thro' the Bowels of *Christendom* to the Imperial Throne; and all this under *Claims* and *Pretensions*, abjur'd by all the most solemn Renunciations that Religion could invent. Yet in Re-vindication of those Claims and re-assumed Rights so religiously renounc'd, filling all with *Blood*, *Massacre* and *Devastation* to tyrannize over wasted Ruins, Cities laid desolate, and desert Mountains, rather than not to tyrannize at all. Where he could not enter with his Sword, he open'd a Passage with his *Gold* for subservient Treachery, and the *Foundations* of future Mischief into the Courts of most of the Princes of *Europe*; deflowering the Fidelity of their Counsellors, and *ravishing* the Allegiance of their most Bosom Intimates, as if there had been a kind of Omnipotency in the Power of *France* to make Treachery and Falshood ubiquitary.

Perhaps this may be thought a little too severe; but this is not a Time to complement the *Publick Enemy* of *Christendom*. This is a Season to speak out, since the Welfare of *England* is involv'd in the common Fate of *Europe*. It is the Business of *England* to evidence how the *French* have violated the Law of Nations, which is common to all; and how they have labour'd to introduce such *Maxims* into the World as would destroy even the whole Commerce of Mankind, and render human Socie-

ties not less dangerous than a Company of *Tygers, Bears and Lyons*. Nor is *England* less concern'd to defend the Publick Faith of Treaties against the crafty Illusions and quaint Evasions of the *French*, and to remove out of the Sight of *Christendom* such scandalous Examples, which, by Consequences no less fatal than unavoidable, would expose the weakest to the predominant Will and Pleasure of the strongest, and establish Force, the grand Arbitrator of all the Proceedings and Affairs of the World. It is the Business of *England*, in Confederacy with Foreign Princes, for the general Welfare of *Christendom*, to betake her self to such Means and Courses, as may put a Stop to a rapid Torrent against the Impetuosity, of which no Ties of Treaty, Marriage, Oaths, Blood, Kindred, Friendship, or Condescension, can be Bounds and Bulwarks strong enough to keep it within its Chancel. It is the Business of *England*, as far as in Her lies, to defend the common Interest of all Princes and States against a prodigious Design; which for its Foundation has nothing but an exorbitant Desire of Conquest; no other End than only Dominion; no other Means, but Force of Arms and treacherous Policy; nor any other Bounds, but what Chance and Fortune will be pleas'd to prescribe. *Lastly*, It is not only the Business, but also for the Glory of *Great Britain* at this Time, to recover Her former *Grandeur*; and as She was wont to do, so at this Time to decide the Fortune of *Europe*, and pronounce the Sentence either of Her Freedom or Slavery: For between these two, there is no Medium to be expected, nor Peace to be secur'd.

secur'd. *England* for a long Time was laid in a profound Lethargy, and therefore it is high Time for Her now to awake, and put Her helping Hand to prevent the Misfortunes and Calamities to which all *Europe* is expos'd by the prevailing Tyrannies and Oppression of *France*.

We are then in the next Place to consider how like a Christian the Most *Christian* King has dealt with the King of *Spain*, his Brother, his Friend and Allie, after a Peace the most solemnly concluded and ratify'd, after the most Sacred Manner that could be imagin'd. Certainly the Calamities, the Miseries, the Murthers, Rapines and Devastations, and innumerable Impieties that attend on War, are so disagreeable from the Principles of *Christian* Religion, that nothing ought to be more seriously, more moderately, and more warily consider'd than the Justice of undertaking it: And therefore said *Herennius*, Captain of the *Samnites*, having enter'd into a War against the *Romans*, after all that could be done to procure Peace, *Rerum humanarum maximum momentum est, quam propitiis, quam adversis agant diis.* Nor did he justify the War upon any other Grounds, than that his Country-men were constrain'd to it, and had no other Hope but in their Arms. *Iustum est Bellum, Samnites, quibus necessarium, & pia Arma, quibus nulla nisi in Armis relinquitur spes.*

The *Romans*, tho' to blame perhaps in the *Samnite* War, (for which they dearly paid, and well it might be wish'd the *French* might pay as dearly for what they have done) generally never enter'd into a War, but they set forth the Justice of their Resentment, which for the
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most Part was in Revenge of their Allies, or to succour their Friends and Confederates. Thus the first *Punick* War was to succour *Messana* in *Sicily*, besieg'd by the *Carthaginians*. The Second in Revenge of *Saguntum*, sack'd by *Hannibal*, contrary to the League between the two Common-wealths. And the Third also for Reasons of the same Nature: And so cautious they were to avoid the Scandal of being thought to make War, meerly out of an ambitious Desire to extend their Dominions, that after they had vanquish'd and reduc'd the *Rhodians*, who had taken part with *Perseus* in the *Macedonian* War, they let them go unpunish'd: *Ne quis divitiarum magis quam injuriæ causâ bellum incœptum diceret.* And the same Author says, that in all the *Punick* Wars, after the *Carthaginians* had committed many nefarious Acts and Breaches of Faith to their Detriment, they never took any Occasion to do the like; *Magis quod se dignum foret, quam quod in illos jure fieri posset querebant:* So that Occasions of enlarging their Dominions were rather offer'd than sought by that victorious Commonwealth. And it is observable, that the Ceremonies of denouncing War that were first instituted by *Ancus Martius*, the Heathen King of the *Romans*, were perform'd as religiously, and with equal Solemnity to the Ceremonies of their Divine Worship. For when the *Fecial* came to the Confines of the Country, against which the War was intended, *Audi Jupiter*, he cry'd; *Audite Fines, Audiat Fas:* Hear O *Jupiter*, Hear O ye Confines, hear Right and Justice: *I am the Publick Messenger of the People of Rome, and come a Fecial, justly and piously sent, and let Faith be*
given

given to my Words. After that, having made his Demands, he again calls *Jupiter* to witness, and thus proceeds, *Si ego injuste, impieque illos homines illasque res dedier Nuncio Populi Romani exposco tum Patriæ compotem me nunquam sinas esse*; if Satisfaction were not given by the Prince or People to whom he was thus sent within Three and Thirty Days, the *Fecial* return'd again, and denounc'd War after this Manner. *Audi Jupiter, & tu Juno, Quirine, Diique, omnes cælestes vosque terrestres, vosque inferni audite; Ego vos testor Populum istum injustum esse, neque jus persolvere, &c.*

Thus the more noble *Heathen Romans*, before they invaded the Borders of their Enemies, invoc'd the Gods to witness the Justice of their Cause, and the Wrongs and Injuries of those that had incens'd them to take Arms. On the other side, the Most *Christian King* not regarding either God or Man, unexpected, unprovok'd, nay, after he had given Assurances that he had no such Design in his Thoughts, thunder'd into his Neighbours Territories, under the Protection of League and Amity; and like a sudden Tempest, with Sword and Fire levels all before him.

Burgundos fraude petivit.

Such an ignoble and Unprincelike Way of entering into Hostility, as looks more like robbing upon the High-way, than a generous Method of War: For that it was a *base* and *ignominious* Surprizal against the Faith and Honour of a King, besides the Breach of Treaty, is apparent from two Circumstances; the one
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that pass'd at *Paris* between the *French* King himself, and the Marquess *De la Fuente* Extraordinary Ambassadour from *Spain*, who being upon his Return into *Spain* upon the Death of the Old King, and not a little apprehensive and jealous, that the vast Preparations made in *France*, were intended against the Queen and the Young Prince, was very importunate with his Most *Christian* Majesty, to give some new and greater Assurances to the Queen of *Spain*, of the Reality and Sincerity of his Intentions, tho' it were but only to quiet and settle her Mind, against all the contrary Advices she receiv'd from all Parts. Upon which the Most *Christian* King with all possible Asseverations engag'd his Faith and Royal Word to the Queen, in the Person of her Ambassadour, that he would religiously keep the Peace, and continue a most faithful Friendship both to Her and her Son.

Another Circumstance was that of the Archbishop of *Ambrun*, who, after the *French* Army was already in the Field, and had possess'd *Charleroy*, some Four or Five Days before the News of it came to *Madrid*, protested and vow'd in *Verbo Sacerdotis*, and by all that was sacred among the *Roman Catholics*, that his Master intended nothing less than what was reported of him, and that he would never break with the King of *Spain*, nor invade his Dominions as long as he was under Age. And when the March of the *French* Army, and the Hostilities which they committed, so little agreed with the Promises of the Most *Christian* King; Answer was made that it was no Breach, but only a taking Possession of what belong'd to him:
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But the only Way to surprize Men is to take 'em unprovided, and the only Way to take 'em unprovided, is to swear with all the Affeverations imaginable, that you never intend to do them any Harm. And this is one of the Most *Christian* King's ways of making War upon his Neighbours, so far from giving them thirty three Days Notice of his Coming, that he will hardly allow them thirty three Minutes: But it is a Meanness in a Prince instructed by so great a Tutor as *Mazarine*, to be a *Slave to his Word*; for which Reason *Fides Gallica* is of late become *Fides Punica*, no sooner given, but as soon broken.

True it is that the *French Academy* has been long endeavouring to refine their Language, by leaving off the Use of some obsolete Words, by introducing others of a new Coin, and enriching it with several quaint Expressions of a fresher Date; but how they could alter the Signification of Words, and call *War* by the Name of *Peace*, is a thing not easie to be understood: And therefore it were to be wish'd, they would explain to the World what they mean by the Word *Rupture*, and how they can make a violent Invasion with Men and great Guns, to agree with the Observation of a Treaty, which forbid all manner of Attempts by armed Force, and was stipulated and contracted to no other End, but to prevent them: That they would explain which Way it is possible for Peace to consist with the Fatal Effects of War; and how it is to be imagin'd that wanting the Formality of a Herald to proclaim the Hostility, it should lose all its Terrors and Injustice; since most Men of ordinary Reason believe that to
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be a Rupture which opposes the very Essence and Being of the Peace, and ranverses the very Foundations, and discomposes all the Harmony of it.

Now the Causes that mov'd the two Crowns to make the *Pyreanean League*, were the *Desires of the Welfare, Repose and Ease of their Subjects*. The Effect was, to put an end to the many *Mischiefs of the War*; to forget and extinguish all the *Causes and Motives which occasion'd the War*, and to establish a sincere, entire and durable Peace between the two Kings, and their Successors.

All which was ranvers'd by the first Invasion of the *Spanish Netherlands*, which disturb'd the Welfare and Repose of the People, renew'd the publick Calamities, and rekindled all the Causes of the past Wars.

But to come to Particulars, the abandoning of *Portugal* was one of the essential Fundamentals of the Peace, without which it never could have been treated nor concluded. In reference to this, the Sixtieth Article runs thus: *For that His Majesty*, meaning the *Most Christian King*, hath foreseen and fear'd, lest such an Engagement should be an unsurmountable Obstruction to the Conclusion of Peace; and consequently reduce the two Kings to a Necessity of a perpetual War. And a little lower in the same Article, he goes on in these Words: *Altho' in Consideration of the Peace*, and considering the absolute Necessity his said *Most Christian Majesty* has been in to perpetuate the War by the Rupture of the present Treaty, which His Majesty found to be unavoidable, in case he would have any longer insisted upon prevailing in that Affair with His Catholick Majesty, to have obtain'd other Conditions, than such as he offer'd.

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In the Second Place, it is plain that the King of Spain, to shew how resolv'd he was that France should abandon Portugal, rejected the French King's offering, besides the Places he was bound to restore by the present Treaty to his Catholick Majesty; all the rest of the Places and Conquests, generally made by his Arms, during the preceeding War, provided that the Affairs of the Kingdom of Portugal might be left in the same Condition as they were then, as as by another Part of the same Article it appears: So that when nothing else would do, it was by the same Article concluded and promised as follows:

His Majesty will no farther meddle with that Affair, and obliges and engages Himself, and promises upon his Honour, and upon the Word of a King, for Himself and his Successors, not to give unto the said Kingdom of Portugal, either in general, or to any Persons in particular, of what Dignity, State, Condition, or Quality soever they be, now or hereafter, any Help or Assistance, publick or secret, directly or indirectly, of Men, Arms, Ammunition, Victuals, Ships, or Money, upon any Pretence or any other thing whatever, either by Land or Sea, or in any other Manner: As also, not to suffer that any Levies of Men be made in any Parts of his Kingdom or Dominions; not to grant Passage to any that may come from other States, to the Assistance of the said Kingdom of Portugal.

One would think that nothing could have been more authentickly expressed, or in Terms more clear or more particular, beyond the Power of Nicety to find a Flaw, or to make any other Interpretation of the Word, contrary to
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the Sense and Meaning of the Parties at that Time. And yet the Most *Christian* King found out a Way to fail in all the Points, and all the Circumstances of his Promise: For notwithstanding his *Honour*, and the *Word of a King*, before the Treaty was sign'd, Cardinal *Mazarine* sent privately the Marquess of *Cheases* into *Portugal*, to assure them, that tho' in Order to the Conclusion of a Treaty then on Foot with *Spain*, the *French* were forc'd to leave them out, and to engage not to assist them; yet, whatever they promis'd, they would never forsake them, but would still protect them against *Spain*, as they had done before: And they kept their Word with *Portugal*, because it was to the Prejudice of *Spain*. To which Purpose, the Peace was no sooner concluded, but they suffer'd several Bands of Soldiers secretly to convey themselves into *Portugal*; which being complain'd of by the Marquess *De la Fuente*, such was the *Punick* Faith of *France*, that openly they sent publick Orders to the Governours of their Ports, not to suffer any Soldiers to embark for *Portugal*, but underhand gave them Orders to let them pass by Way of Connivance. Soon after M. *Turenne* made publick Levies of Men, for the Relief of *Portugal*, which the *Spanish* Ambassadour representing to the Council of *France*, receiv'd a cold and scornful Answer, that it was a particular Act of Marshall *Turenne*, wherein the Court was no way concern'd: Nor did the *French* cease to furnish the *Portuguisers* with Corn, and all Sorts of War-like Ammunition and Provision. Moreover, Letters were intercepted by the *Spaniard*, by which they were ascertain'd, that all along after the Peace was concluded,

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the *French* fomented and encourag'd the Obstinacy of the *Portugueses*, and diverted them from accepting the advantageous Conditions that were offer'd them, by animating them with the Hopes of potent Succours, not only for their own Defence, but also to carry an offensive War into the Heart of *Spain*. Other Letters were likewise intercepted, written from the Archbishop of *Ambrun*, and Monsieur *Lienne*, confirming the continual Correspondence which was between them in Favour of the *Portugals*: Nor was this all, for the D. of *B.* was presently after the Treaty, sent to lie with the *French* Fleet upon the Coast of *Portugal*, and stay'd there a whole Summer to secure the coming and landing of Provisions and Ammunition, of which the *Portugueses* were then in extream Want; and this at the same Time that the *French* offer'd to mediate an Accomodation between *Spain* and *Portugal*. Nor was it long after the Conclusion of the *Pyreanean* Treaty, that Monsieur *Colbert* made several Voyages into *Portugal*, to encourage them against the *Spaniards*, and to enter into secret Alliance with them: And sometime after the *Spaniards* took a *French* Vessel, wherein was found an Account of the Succours which *France* had sent from time to time into that Kingdom; by which it appear'd that *France* had paid at her own Expence a standing Army in *Portugal*, to support a War against *Spain*.

And to compleat her Perfidy, at length she concluded a League offensive with that Kingdom, of which these were the principal Conditions: That they would be the Friends of each others Friends, and Enemies of each others Enemies, England only excepted: That *France* should furnish

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them

them with as many Men, as should be necessary to carry an offensive War into Spain, both by Sea and Land, and should advance by way of Loan, the one half of the Pay for the Maintenance of the Auxiliary Troops. That France moreover should pay them every Year by way of Loan, the Sum of 300000 Crowns, and that all the Ports which should be taken from the Spaniards upon either Sea, should be put into the Hands of the French, and that they should not treat either of Truce or League without joynt Consent. This League to continue Ten Years.

By so many several Instances, let all the World be Judges how little Credit there is to be given to the *Punick Faith* of France, or what any other Prince can expect from his Honour, or his Promises in any Matter whatsoever, who thus foully forfeited such a most solemn Engagement to the Crown of Spain. For that a Treaty carry'd on between Two Princes in order to a Marriage, which is one of the most solemn Negotiations that can be handled among Men, and confirm'd by an Oath, sanctify'd with all the most sacred Mysteries of Christian Religion, for a punctual Obligation of Performance, should be thus inhumanely violated, is not to be parallell'd by any Example or Instance in History.

That noble Example of the *Roman Consuls*, who bid *Hanno* not to fear, the publick Faith secur'd him, is a Thing of late unknown in France, where there is no Security or Trust in the Honour, or Royal Promise of the Prince. For his Truth to Portugal was only Self-Interest, to support the *Portugueses* against Spain, as formerly the French were wont to league with Scotland against England; so that whether the Character of *Amurath*, the first Emperour of the
Turks,

Turks, who is said to have been *Homo fallax qui datam fidem ex opportunitate proferendi imprimis meriebatur, bello & pace simulata egregius*, may not fitly be apply'd to the Most *Christian* King, is left for them to determine who have felt the Smart of his *broken Leagues*; which brings us to the Second Breach of the *Pyrenean* Treaty. It is said and acknowledg'd by the *Plenipotentiaries* in the 33^d Article of that Treaty, that the particular Capitulation of Marriage between the *French* King and the Eldest Daughter of *Spain*, bearing Date with the General Treaty, was of the same Force and Vigour with the Treaty of Peace, as being the chiefeſt Part thereof, and the moſt worthy, as well as the greateſt and moſt precious Earneſt of the Security of its Duration.

The Queen Mother of *France*, and Aunt to the *Infanta*, deſiring nothing more than the happy and ſuitable Union of two Perſons that were ſo dear in her Affection, to remove all Impediments, and diſpell the Doubts and Scruples of the *Spaniſh* Couſel; found out an Expedient, that by the Contract of Marriage, the *Infanta* ſhould abſolutely renounce all Manner of Right or Claim, which ſhe might for ever have to the whole, or any Parts of the *Spaniſh* Succeſſion, under any Pretence or Title whatever, to the end the *Spaniſh* Monarchy might in no Caſe be liable, either to Foreign Subjection, or to be diſmember'd: And they were more inclinable on both ſides to this Expedient, becauſe the Way had been open'd for them before by the Example of the Queen Mother, whoſe Renunciation was of the ſame Nature with the *Pyrenean*, both in Form and Subſtance, and grounded upon the ſame Incompatibility of the Two Succeſſions.

The King of *Spain* believing the same Sincerity in others as in himself, hearken'd to the Offer, and thought that with such a Precaution he might reconcile the *Spanish* Law with the *Salique*, and fully secure the Liberty of his Subjects. *France* on the other side acknowledg'd the Thing to be *just* and *usual*, and freely consented to it, for the Sake of the general Good that should result from such a Peace, and confirm him in the Possession of so many Conquests. Thereupon the Instrument was drawn up by Consent, and the *French* King oblig'd himself to ratifie it.

Whence it is plain, that the *Renunciation* was an essential Member of the Peace, the very Soul and an inseparable Condition of the *Treaty of Marriage*, without which it never had been projected nor concluded, and consequently neither the *Treaty of Peace*.

Then again, that it was no private Act, but a Law and Pragmatick Sanction establisht by joynt Consent of the Two Crowns, is as clear from the Words of the Act it self; *And in the fifth and sixth Articles of the said Treaty, it has been decreed and resolv'd by joynt Consent, that is to say, of the Two Kings; and with one Will, after serious Consideration, &c. that both my self, and the Children which God shall give me by this Marriage, are and shall remain incapable, disabl'd, and absolutely excluded from any Right or Hope to succeed in any of the Kingdoms, States, Signiories, &c. And a little lower, condescending to this with the joynt Desire and earnest Wishes of their Subjects, Vassals, and Natives, who desire that it may have the Force and Vigour of a Law and Pragmatick Sanction, and that*

it may be receiv'd and observ'd as such; and some Lines lower in the following Section are added these Words: And it shall be decreed by joynt Consent, that it is their Majesties Pleasure, that this Act shall have the uorce and Vigour of a Law establish'd in Favour of their Kingdoms, and the publick Interests of them.

A little above the Three moving Causes are specify'd; *And in regard it concerns the Publick State of both Crowns, that being so large, they may never come to be united together, and to prevent all Occasions that may happen of joyning them, &c. which is more fully explain'd two Pages lower. And having joyntly Regard to the Publick and Common Good of the Kingdoms, which God has entrusted him with, which together with these belonging to the Crown of France, are equally interested in this; that the Grandeur and Majesty which they have upheld and maintain'd for so many Years together, with so much Happiness and Glory to the Renown of their Kings, may not be diminish'd nor fall to Decay, as of Necessity they will diminish and fall, if by the Means and Cause of this Marriage, they shall happen to unite and be joyn'd together in any one of the Children and Successors; the ill Consequences whereof would cause such Discontents and Afflictions to the Subjects, as ought to be consider'd: Then the Causes of the Renunciation are exprest to be the publick Good of the Kingdoms, the Preservation of the Grandeur, and Glory of their Majesties; to prevent the Discontents of the People, and the Inconveniences which might otherwise arise, and to facilitate for the future the Marriages between the Children and Successors of the two Princes:*

All which Causes being in their own Nature *unalterable*, and of Necessity absolute, could not be fasten'd upon any particular Act, nor limited to any restrictive Conditions.

This League therefore thus grounded upon these Foundations, were such Limitations and Bounds to a Person aspiring to the Universal Monarchy of *Europe*, as were not to be fenced in with the common Ties and Restraints of *Oaths* and *Treaties*. And therefore so soon as the Old King of *Spain* was *dead*, the *French Lawyers*, well understanding the Humour of their Sovereign, and preferring the little *Quirks* of *Law* before the *Publick Faith*, started up a Claim for their King in the Right and Behalf of his Wife the *Infanta*, notwithstanding her *Solemn Renunciation*, which was made a Member of the Body of the Treaty, and as sacredly sworn to by the *French King* himself; pretending that a great Part of the *Spanish* Low Countries was devolv'd to him in her Right by the Municipal Laws, and Local Customs of those Countries. Whereas it is a thing well known, that when Sovereign Princes enter into *Treaties* (which are indeed the true and only Laws between Monarchs) they are regulated and confirm'd according to the Law of Nations common to all; and being so to be understood, it is an idle Thing for *Civilians* to imagin, that a Consideration of Laws Municipal, or Customs belonging to any particular Country, under the Dominion of either of the Treating Princes, can be admitted to the overthrowing of a Treaty, or the depriving either of the Parties of the Benefit and Security which he has thereby.

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But notwithstanding the *Renunciation* was so carefully penn'd, as if a whole Grand Council of *Civil Lawyers* had been call'd to out-do all former Terms and Expressions us'd in such Contracts, and to find out new binding Clauses, to prevent all Possibility of Evasion, the *French King* was more easily induced to believe that his own great *Canon-Law* was above all other *Law*, and more consentaneous to his Reason and his Designs, and therefore against the very Sense and End of the *Renunciation*, under the slight Pretence of a *Non-Entity*, he betook himself to Force and Violence, and with a powerful Army fell on a sudden upon *Flanders*, and other Parts of the *Spanish Territories*, with such an Inundation of War, that it was impossible for the unprovided *Spaniard* to resist him; more especially, after such deep *Asservations*, that all his vast Preparations were no Way intended against the *Spanish Dominions*.

These prosperous Successes occasioned the *Triple League*, which put a Stop to the *French Career*, and brought on another *Treaty*, which was manag'd at *Aken*, or *Aix la Chapelle*, in order to a new Agreement between *France* and *Spain*. The Observation of which affords us another Instance of that ye call *French Fidelity*.

By this *Treaty* the *French King* was to remain posses'd of *Charleroy*, *Binch*, *Athe*, *Doway*, the Fort of *Scarp*, *Turnay*, *Oudenard*, *Lille*, *Armentiers*, *Courtray*, *Bergues*, and *Turnes*, and all their *Bayliwicks*, &c. and to restore to the King of *Spain* the County of *Burgundy* together with *Alost*. And to this *Treaty* all the Princes of *Christendom* were invited to give the two Kings their *Promises* and *Engagements* of *Warranty*, as to all the Contents of the *Treaty*. And by

another Article of the Treaty it was accorded, that whatever should on the Day of the *Ratification* of the *Peace* be found upon the *Lands* of *France*, should appertain to Her, and that whatever in like Manner should be found upon the *Lands* of *Spain* should appertain to the Crown of *Spain*; but as if it were an Impossibility for *France* to keep her Word, the Most *Christian* Prince designing to make his Advantage of this Article, before the *Ratification* came, caus'd the *Ax* to be set to a *Wood* of *overgrown Trees*, which was upon the *Lands* of *Spain*, and having fell'd the *Temper*, transported it into his own *Dominions*, that when the *Ratification* should come, he might have an *Excuse* for what he had done.

In like Manner, tho' he were to restore all *Burgundy*, by the *Articles* of this *Treaty* without *Reservation*, and tho' he were sworn upon the *Cross*, the *Holy Evangelists*, the *Canons* of the *Mass*, and upon his *Honour*, fully, really, and *bona fide* to observe and accomplish all the *Contents* of the *Articles*, yet he both dismantled the strong Holds and Places of the County, carried away all the *Ammunitions* and *Warlike Provisions*, and would have destroyed the rich *Salt Pits* of that *Province*, but for the powerful *Interposition* of *England* and *Holland*.

Nor could this *Treaty* of *Aix*, so religiously sworn to, tie up the *French King* from exacting heavy *Contributions* from the *Dutchess* of *Lymburgh* and *Luxenburgh*, from laying new *Claims* to some *Towns* as important as any of those that had been granted him by the *Peace*, nor from confiscating the *Estates* of the *Subjects* of the *King* of *Spain*, that refus'd to forswear

swear their Allegiance, not sparing the Royal House of *Mary Mont*. And as if these Infractions and Incroachments had not been sufficient, they forc'd their Way with great Quantities of Merchandize thro' the *Spanish* Territories, without paying Customs, and not long after endeavour'd to surprize the Town of *Hainault*. And in short, they did whatever they pleas'd, plunder'd even the most sacred Places, and acted without Remorse or Pity, whatever can be imagined by insolent and unconscionable Men.

This perfidious dealing of *France* with *England* and *Spain*, spreading over *Europe* like a Gangrene, as it prov'd extreamly prejudicial to some, so it became no less pernicious to others of the *European* Princes.

Among the rest, the Duke of *Lorrain*, by the *Pyrenean* Treaty, was to be restor'd to his Dukedom of *Lorrain*, with all the Places and Towns which he had possessed in the Bishopricks of *Mets*, *Toul* and *Verdun*. But *France*, after the Execution of the other Articles of that Peace, delay'd as long as she could the Performance of that Part which related to the Duke, and still refus'd to restore him to his Country, 'till she had made him condescend to another Treaty with her, whereby he was constrain'd to part with several other considerable Places, besides what had been granted to him by the *General Peace*. Nor would that Usurpation satisfy her voracious Appetite; for that after a Year and an half of an unsettl'd Possession, during which Time, under several unjust Pretences, new Quarrels were every Day pick'd with him, 'till she forc'd him with a considerable

rable Army, to surrender into her Hands his Town of *Marsul*.

Nor was it long after before the *French* again compell'd him to sign a new *Treaty*, still more disadvantageous than the two former; nor could he then, as little as before, have any quiet Enjoyment of that little they had left him, 'till they had worm'd him out of all. For every Day the *French* encroached upon his *Jurisdiction*, the Liberties of his *Territories*, and his *Sovereignty* it self: He laid most enormous *Taxes* upon the Duke's Subjects; he constrain'd him to disband his *Forces*, and then to raise new *Men* again, as the Most *Christian* Usurper thought fit. He was kept from revenging his own Quarrels, to take Part in that of others, all his Enemies were let loose against him, to stop the Progress of his Armies, as soon as he had gain'd the least Advantage. And in few Words, the Noble Duke, who deserv'd a much better *Treatment*, was all that while rather a *Vassal* to *France*, than a *Sovereign Prince*. Neither would this satisfy the Ambition of the *French King*, who finding by many Circumstances how highly the Duke resented such *Despotick Usage*, he sent one of his Generals to surprize and seize his *Person*, and to bring him either dead or alive. A new *French Mode* of dealing with Sovereign Princes, not known in the more generous Climates of *Europe*, and which may give us some Hopes of seeing the *Northern Part* of the World govern'd by *Basha's* as well as the *Eastern*.

But 'tis an infallible *Maxim*, that every Prince dispossest of his Estate, may hold for certain there will be nothing omitted on the Usurper's Part, or Conqueror in Possession, to ruin

ruin him, if possible, and all his Generation. Therefore 'tis not strange that the *French King* should leave no Stone unturn'd for the Destruction of his Highness of *Lorraine*: From hence it was, that the *Imperial Governour* of *Philipsburgh*, the same who afterwards basely and cowardly surrender'd up that Garrison to *Crequi*, so notoriously and openly as he did, attempted the Destruction of that Prince, by a *Trap-door*, which he cunningly caus'd to be contriv'd for that Purpose in the *Bridge* of that Place; thro' which the Duke, not dreaming of any such *French Treachery* so near him, fell headlong to the Bottom of the *Ditch*. For may it not be justly inferr'd, that this *Governour* had capitulated and agreed with some Christian Minister of *France*, to execute so grateful a Piece of *Treason*, more especially, since it was by the Power of the Favourers of *France* at *Vienna*, that the *Traitors* escap'd altogether unpunish'd.

And now we are come to *Vienna*, it will not be amiss to take a short View of the Most *Christian King's* Behaviour towards the Emperor, where he will be found nothing chang'd, either in his *Morals* or his *Politicks*.

As for the Occasion that ever his late *Imperial Majesty* gave the *French King*, to make such Bloody Wars upon Him, there is no Body that can tell of any: Nor is it probable that a Prince so good natur'd, so Piously inclin'd, so much given to Repose and Peace, and so averse from contending with his Neighbours, or making War upon his Inferiours, as he is said to be, should be an *Agressor*: But all the World knows that it has been long the *Ambition* of *France* to grasp in his Hands the Universal *Monarchy* of the
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Fourth Part of the *Habitable Earth*; and this is that which makes the *French King* seek Occasions of Publick Universal Disturbance, and the better to succeed, to leave nothing unattempted that Force or Fraud can procure. It is no Quarrel between *Nations*, bearing Enmity to one another, neither is it in Revenge of Injuries received, but an impotent *Rage* and *Lust* of Empire in one Man, that has set all *Europe* together by the Ears; *Delirat Ludovicus plectitur Europa*. One Man is mad for the Empire, and that Madness of one Man sets all *Europe* in a *Flame*.

Now for that the worst of Usurpers would be thought to have some glittering Pretence for their *Injustice*, therefore it is that the *French King* makes it his Business, to find out Men of *Wit* and *Cavil*, to turmoil for Justifications of his illegal Actions; such Men are easily found, and the Temptations of Gold makes them no less sedulous to gratifie the *Jupiter* that commands the Golden Showers; so that if they can but find him a Pretence of Claim, he'll find Armies and Bombs to make it good. Under the Warmth of such Golden Encouragements was hatch'd that elaborate *Piece*, entituled, *The just Pretensions of the King* (meaning the *French King*) to *Europe*; wherein after the Author has laid it for a Foundation, that the *Demefnes* and Conquests of *Kingdoms* are always the *Demefnes* and Conquests of *Sovereigns*, and that the Conquests and *Demefnes* of Crowns cannot be ascertain'd or prescrib'd; he adds, *That the greater Part of Germany is the Patrimony and ancient Inheritance of the French King*.

Charlemaigne possess'd Germany not as Emperor, but as King of France. From which Doctrine

ctrine it is evident, that his *Imperial Majesty*, nor indeed any Prince in *Europe*, can ever be safe, nor hope for any Quiet, while the *Ambition* of *France* is in a Condition to lay such a Claim to their *Dominions*. More especially, since it is known by woful Experience, that the *French King* gives no other Reasons for his unjust *Violences*, nor cares to give any other than what the *Lion* gave to the weaker *Beasts*; one Part is his *Right*, as King of the *Forest*, another because he is able to *subdue*; the third he takes by *Force*, and for the *rest*, touch it who dares.

Another Cunning to set up a *French Title* is by the Means of certain *Scribes*, as good as ever *Granger*, so dextrous at the Strokes of their *Pens*, that they will imitate the obsolete *Gothick* Characters with that Exactness, that you would swear they were written above Five or Six Hundred Years ago, and by that Means, they will set up a *Dependence* from such a Distance of Time, that *Beelzebub* himself shall not be able to disprove it.

Upon these Foundations it was, that as if he were dealing only with the *Farmers* of his *Revenues*, by a publick *Declaration* he erected a Sovereign Court at *Mets*, compos'd according to the Custom of *France*, of a Dozen of his Lawyers, who, by Virtue of the King's Authority, and the Ministry of the *Catchpoles* of that clandestine Jurisdiction, summon before them all such *Kings* and *Princes* as are possess'd of any Territory which the King is pleas'd to call a *Dependence* upon any State, with which he has nothing to do; and when no Body appears to acknowledge the Jurisdiction of this *Tyrannical*
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and *Universal Piepoudre*, and to give them an Account by what Right they possess what their Predecessors have for Three or Four Hundred Years peaceably enjoy'd; presently the Most *Christian* Prince makes his own Power his Judges, and his Army his Advocates, and immediately with *Fire* and *Sword* seizes upon the confiscated *Dominion*. And by Virtue of such Pretensions as these, he *claims* and has *possess'd* himself of the Dukedom of *Lorraine*, the Dutchy of *Deux Ponts*, and the best Part of *Alsatia*, as being Dependencies of the *Bishopricks* of *Toul*, *Metz*, and *Verdun*; and consequently must be united to the *Demefnes* of the Crown of *France*.

Having then so clear a Title to the *Empire*, no Wonder he pursues so *dreadfully* the Recovery of his Right. And yet the true Mother of the Child could not endure to see the Bowels of her *Infant* rip'd up before her Eyes; no, nor can we believe the Most *Christian* Prince to be the Hereditary Father of those Countries, which, in Detestation of all Compassion, he so inhumanly *ransacks* and *depopulates*; being then a spurious Title, disown'd by the *Legitimate Parents* of all true Titles, *Law* and *Justice*, which only Fraud and Force could make good. Of both how *dreadfully*, and how too *successfully* the *Ambitious Monarch* has made Use in asserting his illegal Claims, all *Europe* can too sadly testify; no less lavish of his Gold than of humane Blood. The Grand *Visier*, and the Cham of *Precopite Tartary*, were his *Pensioners*, dazl'd with several Millions of his *Louisian* Medals; the one to divert the Arms of *Poland*; the other to keep his *Imperial Majesty* employ'd in the utmost Limits of his Dominions, bordering up-
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on *Turkey*, that he with the less Resistance might revel in the Ruins of the flourishing *Gardens* and *Cities* of the *Rhine*. And as he tramples under Foot all *Faith* and *Honour* at Home, so by tampering with the Ministers and Subjects of other Princes, he instructs them here to manage their Fidelity to the best Advantage of his own Ambition, and by a *Metal* of his own tries what *Metal* they are made of, before he deal with their Masters. And with this Sort of *White Powder*, which does Execution without Noise, shoots down more Citadels, Castles, and strong Holds, and takes in more Towns than all the *Thunder* of his *Cannon*. In so much, that it has been observ'd, that when his Ambassadors go abroad, they either carry along with them the principal *Engins*, or else they are sent after them; an Ambassador, or an Agent go before his Army, and then usually a Conquest follows. Ἀργυρέαις λόγχαισι μάχεσθαι is his *Motto*: A new Way to Honour and Renown, unknown to *Alexander*, or any of the dull *Roman* Conquerors.

Had not the Steward of Commissary General *Capellier*'s House been tainted with this *Golden Poison*, he had never been surpriz'd by his Master in the very Act of *Traiterous Correspondence* with the Minister of *France*, to whom he gave an exact Accompt of all he could discover in his Master's House. And to confirm what his Master had detected, at length certain Letters, which the Steward was to have received from the *French* Minister, were seiz'd at the Imperial *Post-Office* in *Frankford*.

After the Peace of *Nimeguen*, the City of *Strasburgh* thought it self in full Security, confirm'd

firm'd by several *fervent* and *vehement* Letters, which the *French* King wrote to them from time to time, and the Assurances given them by his Resident abiding in the City, that his Master *desir'd* nothing more than to live in Peace and Amity with the *Emperour*, and with the Cities of the Empire. And yet by the *underhand*, contending and tampering with the same Resident, a Traitor was chosen *Burgher-master*, who acted altogether conformable to the Advice of *France*. On the other side, the *Magistrates* and *Burghesses* being lull'd asleep by the fair Promises and Protestations of *France*, dismiss'd their Guard of *Switzers*, which were the chief Security of their City: But no sooner were the *Switzers* departed, but Monsieur *Louvoy* with a powerful Army invested the City, and forc'd them to surrender upon such Conditions as he was pleas'd to prescribe them. After which the *French* King made no Scruple to violate those pitiful *Articles* which they granted them, and to treat them as *Slaves* like the rest of his Subjects.

The Treaty of *Nimeguen* began in the Name of the most holy and indivisible Trinity; and the End of it was, that there should be an *immoveable* and *unshaken* Peace between his *Imperial Majesty* and the *French* King, to stop the *Desolation* of so many Provinces, and the Effusion of so much *Christian Blood*; yet no sooner was the *Emperour* engag'd against the *Turk*, and that *Spain* and her Allies had laid down their Arms, and disbanded the greatest Part of their Forces, relying upon the *Faith* of the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, but the Most *Christian* King fell in upon *Flanders* with a more than
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Turkish Fury, *Burning*, *Plundering*, and *Levelling* with the Earth whole *Towns* and *Villages*, on Purpose to constrain the People to revolt, and to become his Vassals to preserve themselves from utter Ruin.

The Correspondence of the Most *Christian* King with the *Ottoman* Port, is too well known, and how it was at his Most *Christian* Importunity, that the Grand Seignior broke the first Truce which he had made with the Empire, to second the Designs of Count *Teckelej*, whom *France*, out of a particular Zeal to the *Catholick Religion*, assisted with Men and Money, and that prevailing Charm it was that wrought upon the Port to send back Count *Caprara*, and reject the Propositions of Peace which he carry'd along with him. Of which the Marquess of *Sepeville*, then the *French* Ambassadour at *Vienna*, fail'd not with all Diligence to give his Master Notice; who with no less Sedulity dispatch'd another Person to the *Grand Visier*, to oblige and encourage him to contrive the Siege of *Vienna*, urging him that it was for his Honour not to quit it, that the City was at its last Gasp, and that it behov'd him to take it, whatever it cost him, for the Sake of his Reputation, and the publick Good of the Port; for that the Siege having made such a Noise in the World, he could not leave the Prosecution of it without Eternal Infamy to the *Ottoman* Empire, and the *Grand Vizier*; adding withal, that to facilitate the taking of the Town, and to divide the Emperour's Forces, his Master would enter into *Flanders* with a puissant Army, which would infallibly oblige the Princes of the *Empire* to recall their Forces

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for their own Security. And in that Point he was as good as his Word to the *Turk*, entring *Flanders* at the same Time with *Fire* and *Sword*, as if he had been Second to *Mahomet*. But when *Vienna* was reliev'd, he was so far from partaking in the general Joy of the rest of the *Christian* World, that he forbid his *Ecclesiasticks* to observe any *Thanksgiving* for the *Victory* of the *Christians*, upon Pain of incurring his High Displeasure.

Nor is it only by the Assistance of open and profess'd *Infidels*, that the *French* King fights the *Emperour* abroad; but by the Means of his pretended Friends and nearest Counsellors, who having finger'd the *Gold* of *France*, become *Traitors* to their lawful Prince, and betray his very *Cabinet Secrets*. This occasion'd the Misunderstanding that happen'd between the Duke of *Brandenburgh* and *Montecuculi*, General of the Imperial Forces in the *Holland War*.

For in the Year 1672. when all *Europe* look'd upon the *United Provinces* near the Brink of *Destruction*, the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, foreseeing the Consequences to be expected from the successful Enterprizes of *France*, took the Field with a considerable Army, at what time *Montecuculi* was on his March, with a Design to act jointly. Upon which *Turenne* was sent to oppose those two Armies; but by the several Marches and Counter Marches which the Elector made, *Turenne's* Army was so tir'd and harass'd, that about the End of the Campaign it was in so miserable a Condition, that all *Turenne* could do, was to defend himself; which caus'd the Elector to make a vigorous Remonstrance of all Things to be made to the *Imperial Council*. Which wrought

wrought so effectually, that positive Orders were sent to *Montecuculi* to join the Elector and fight *Turenne*, without farther Loss of Time; so that nothing but *Treachery*, the Mode of *France*, could have prevented the Total Ruin of *Turenne's* Army. But the *French* Instruments in the *Imperial Court* so order'd the Matter, that *Montecuculi's* Orders were chang'd, and an express Command sent him, neither to joyn the Elector, nor to fight *Turenne*. The Elector, who had receiv'd from the Court of *Vienna* a formal Letter, which gave him an Account of the true Order which the Emperour had sent his *General* to joyn him, and fight the shatter'd Enemies, wonder'd when *Montecuculi*, being by him summon'd to execute the Order, refus'd to obey it: But *Montecuculi*, who knew nothing of the Letter sent the Elector, could do no less than follow his own Instructions.

The Elector was concern'd in Reputation to make the Emperour sensible of *Montecuculi's* Proceedings; and if *Montecuculi* was strangely surpriz'd, when at his Return to *Vienna*, his *Imperial Majesty* call'd him to a strict Account, why he neither joyn'd the *Brandenburgher*, nor fought *Turenne*, the Emperour was no less amaz'd, when his General produced for his Discharge an Order in exact Form, forbidding him to do either the one or the other. This was a perfect Mystery; however, afterwards it was found out to have been a Contrivance between the *French Emissaries*, and some of the *Imperial Ministers*, who having easily found a Way to intercept the *Original Order*, and in the same Dispatch to transmit a false one under a counterfeited Hand and Seal. And thus per-

haps it was that General *Souches*, after the Battle of *Sennef*, drew off from the Prince of *Orange*, and left him in the Lurch, under Pretence of not having Order to do any more than what he had done.

Tarbrack was a Town upon the Borders of *Germany*, that stood conveniently for the Purposes of the *French* King, and therefore he resolv'd to fortifie it. On the other Side, the *Imperialists* complain'd of it to the *French* King, as a Truce and Treaty both at one Time; but all the Answer they could get, was, that the *Royal Chamber* of *Mets* had irrevocably decreed it to belong to the Crown of *France*, and therefore the *Imperialists* had no Reason to complain of a Sovereign *Monarch's* fortifying his Frontier Towns.

His very Proposals of *Marriage* are only *Snares* to entrap such Princes as will accept of his *Matches*; and because his main Design is at the Empire, therefore he strives to scatter his *Circes* and *Medeas* among the Princes of *Germany*: Believing Wives to be the fittest Instruments to betray their Husbands, and the Nuptial Sheets to be the securest *Harbours* for *Treachery*.

Thus after the *Marquess* of *Bethune's* Sister was married to the King of *Poland*, Jealousies between the King her Huband and the Emperor were fomented, and Factions set up in that Country, by the Means of those Golden Rays which the Sun of *France* displays in that Court by the Hands of the *Bankers* of *Hamburgh* and *Dantzick*. And the more to encourage her to play her Game according to the *French* Instructions, his Most *Christian* Majesty made her Father a Duke and Peer of *France*, and promis'd
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to receive her as a Queen, and not as a Subject, if she return'd a Widow in her own Country. Thus he thought to have caught the Young Duke of *Bavaria* with one of his Natural Daughters; but that Heroick Prince despis'd the Motion. And if the *French King* had been assur'd that the Young Prince of *Poland* should succeed his Father, there had been another Natural Daughter of *France* ready prepar'd for him; for otherwise, it would be a Daughter meerly thrown away, if she could not be in a Station to serve her own Country. For that the main End of the *French King* in giving *French Wives* to the King of *Poland*, and the several Princes of *Germany*, is to divide the Strength of the *Empire*, and lessen the Authority of the *Emperour*, by separating from his Interest the particular Princes of the *Empire* by private Intrigues, and distinct Treaties, which tho' it be contrary to the Treaty of *Munster*, yet that signifies nothing to a Prince who has no such Veneration for *Leagues* as to think them worth observing.

As for the *French King's* dealing with the Duke of *Nienbergh*, it was somewhat *barbarous*; for that, after the *French King* had caus'd him to mortgage the greatest Part of his Estate, almost beyond the Hopes of Redemption, in Expectation of the *Polish Crown*, to which *France* had promis'd to advance him, by the Assistance of a strong Party which she had in that Kingdom, contrary to the Treaties, as well with the Duke as with the Elector of *Brandenburg*, and to his reiterated Promises and Vows, both by Word of Mouth and in Writing; he underhand, by his Creatures and Agents, op-

pos'd the Duke's Pretensions, and endeavour'd with all the Industry and Importunity imaginable, to have the Prince of *Conde* preferr'd before him, and all the rest of his Competitors; a sufficient Warning to all Princes how they rely upon the *broken Reed* of *French Integrity*.

The Elector of *Brandenburgh* was environed with *French* Emissaries and Spies, and some of his principal Ministers so intoxicated with the Elixirs of *France*, that nothing was said or done in his *Palace*, of which the *French* Envoy had not swift Intelligence. And the World was well inform'd of all the Intrigues and large *Presents* which Monsieur *De Rebenack* scatter'd about in that Court; of which the *Agent* himself was so unwary, or so foolish as to make his Boasts.

The Elector of *Saxony* better understood his own Interest, and therefore would not bite at the *Golden Hook*, as one that disdain'd the treacherous *Offers* of *France*; but the *French* King endeavoured by other Ways to raise him Disturbances in his own Family, and to set him at Variance with his Neighbours, which would have strangely embroil'd him, had not the Emperour in Time provided against those Mischiefs. However, lest it should be said there was any *Court* in *Christendom*, wherein the *French* King had not some *Plough* or other going, he forbears not to send into *Saxony* such as know how to accommodate themselves to the *Humour* of the Country, more especially the stoutest *Drinkers* he can find out; who by that Means, making themselves familiar at the Tables of the *great Persons*, watch their Opportunities in
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the Heighth of Jollity and Computation, to draw the *Worms* out of their Noses, and dive into the Bottoms of their open'd Hearts.

The *Palatine* Electors, neither Father nor Son, would close with the Interest of the *French*, and therefore His Most *Christian* Majesty sacrificed the depopulated Cities of that Country to his Fury, even to the Compassion of some that were the Executioners of his Rage; a Depopulation which none but such Monsters of Men as the Most *Christian* King employs would have undertaken; Men so impious and fearless of God, that one of them being mildly reprehended for the burning of a fair Town, reply'd, *That he would burn God in Heaven if his Master, the King of France, commanded him to do it.* But perhaps the Most *Christian* King is of the Opinion of the *antient Galls*, believing there is no Way to give Peace to a Country, but by rooting out the Inhabitants, according to that of *Tacitus*, *Galli, ubi solitudinem fecerunt pacem appellant.*

Nor could the Bishop of *Munster*, as cunning as he was, preserve himself from being outwitted by the *French* Infidelity. For that being comprehended in the League of the *Rhine*, when he found himself attack'd by the States of *Holland* within the Empire, he implored the Aid of *France*, according to the *Guarranty*, but in vain; for when he was about to make his Complaint, he was of a sudden overwhelm'd with the Forces of *France*, and had not his Enemies us'd Moderation toward him more than his own *Allie*, his Territories, tho' the *Patrimony* of the *Church*, had been laid in Ashes before now.

When the *French King* broke Faith with *Holland*, to the Surprize of a great Part of their Country, he was so far from assigning any Cause, true or false, for his Actions, that he only publish'd a *Declaration of War*, without any other Reasons, than only the Ill Satisfaction which His Majesty had of the Behaviour of the *States General* toward him, being risen to that Degree, that he can no longer without Diminution of his Glory, dissemble his Indignation against them, &c. therefore he had resolv'd to make War against them by Sea and Land, &c. and commands all his Subjects *courir sus* upon the *Hollanders*, for such is our Pleasure.

Certainly it was never known that in any Age or Nation in the World the Sword was drawn upon no better Allegations; a Style so far from being Most Christian, that nothing but some *French Romance* could parallel the Expression. All that can be said, 'twas *A-la-mode de France*.

But *Holland* had no Reason to wonder at these Proceedings, considering what a Prank the *French King* had play'd them before, when he pretended to joyn with them in the War against *England*. At what Time *France*, by Virtue of a Treaty of *Guarranty* with the *States of the United Provinces*, after several Requests ineffectually made by the *States*, found her self oblig'd to make a Shew of undertaking to defend them against *England*; among the rest of the *Articles*, there was one by which it was concluded and agreed in express Terms, that the *Allies* should not *Negotiate*, much less conclude any Peace or Truce with the common Enemy, without the Consent of the other, and
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without procuring the same Satisfaction for his *Allie*, as he would for himself. The States tied themselves with that Integrity to this Obligation, that notwithstanding the considerable Advantages offer'd them to treat separately; they would not so much as lend an Ear to any Proposition of that Nature. *France* on the other side, had always kept on Foot a private *Negotiation*, which nevertheless the *Dutch* had all the Reason in the World to suspect, because of the continual posting of *Curriers* between *Paris* and *London*. However, *France* confirm'd them so authentickly in a contrary Belief, and gave them such positive Promises, that she would never hearken to any Proposition, unless in a joint Assembly, for a *General Peace*, that she order'd the Count *D' Estrades*, that in Case the *States* would not give Credit to what he assured them as an *Ambassadour*, he should quit that Character for so long Time, and pawn his Faith to them as a private Person. A great Honour indeed to the Count *d' Estrade*, to have the Reputation of a Person that would not tell an Untruth, but under the Character of a publick Minister of *France*, and that the Probity of his Person was above the Dignity of his Employment. Tho' had he been so improvident to have been bound for his Master, he must certainly have answered both the *Principal* and *Interest*; for certain it is that *England* and *France* concluded the Peace without the *Consent* or so much as the *Knowledge* of the *States*; neither did *France* make any Mention of them or their Interests, or of any Reserve or Relation to the *General Peace*. But that which was more surprizing was this, that af-
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ter the *French* King had thus concluded a *private Peace* with *England*, notwithstanding he had promis'd the King not to exercise any Act of Hostility against him, he us'd all his Endeavours to oblige the *Dutch* to put forth their Fleet to Sea, engaging to joyn with them, and agreeing upon all the *Conditions* necessary for that Purpose. A double headed Piece of *Treachery*, fit to be recorded to the *Eternal Infamy* of the *Faith Breaker*.

If we look into *Sweeden*, we shall find that she was consider'd as more potent than *Denmark*, and therefore a *League* was clapt up with them, to prevent the *Danes* assisting *Holland*; and by that *League* the King of *Sweeden* was to receive by Way of Pension, or Gratuity, Sixteen Hundred Thousand *Crowns*. But the *French*, upon second *Thoughts*, finding the *Treaty* with the *Sweeds* to be of little Use to them, refus'd to ratifie it, and sent away Monsieur *Trelon*, to tell the King of *Sweeden* in short, that his Master declar'd it void; a quick and Majestick Way to rescind a *Treaty* at any Time!

If we remove into *Poland*, there you shall find no Body more busie than the *French* King's *Ambassadors*, at the Elections of the King, to procure the Choice of such a one as may be tack'd to his *Interest*, or at least such a one as may have no Kindness to the *House of Austria*, and all this to enable him the more to disturb the Peace of the *Empire*. In Pursuance of which ungodly Designs, under a Pretence of advancing the *Affairs* of *Poland*, and settling a perfect Amity with that Kingdom, the *French* King contriv'd a Marriage for the *Polish* Prince, with a Lady of *France*. By which Means he had a
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fair Opportunity to send thither, as her *Attendants*, and for the more Splendor of her Fame, so many expert Instruments of Mischief, that immediately they form'd and settl'd a *Cabal* with such *Intrigues* as in a short Time enflam'd the Nobility of that Kingdom into Animosities and Factions, not likely to be so soon again extinguish'd: And at that Time they wrought so far, that the King soon after became willing to resign the Kingdom; upon which the *Turk* seeing the great Divisions that were rais'd among them, was the more easily allur'd in by the *French Cabal*, who procur'd by *Versallian's* Directions that Mischief, partly out of *Revenge* because they could not compass another King, either of *French* Blood or *French* Interest, at the next Election, and partly, because the *New King* had contracted a Marriage with the *Emperour's* Sister.

And now *Poland*, by Reason of its Scituation, being shelter'd under the Wings of the *French* Ambassadour, is fix'd upon by the *French*, to convey themselves from thence into *Hungary*, and the *Ottoman Port*, for the better and more easie carrying on their Intrigues between *France*, the *Malecontents* and the *Turk*. And first, it appear'd by several Letters dispersed both in *Constantinople*, *Transilvania* and *Hungary*, that upon the 30th of *December*, 1681. the War was resolv'd upon, and sworn to against the *Emperour*, in the *Seraglio* of *Constantinople*, in the *Holy Council* call'd the *Divan*, where the *Musti*, High-priest of the *Mahometan* Religion, sits President. Which sufficiently laid open the Authors and Procurers of that War, and clearly shew'd, that the *French* were not asham'd,

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as if it had been a famous Action in them to take Advice of the *Divan*, and applaud the Success of the *Negotiation*, as they did in their Letters written backwards and forwards to the *Rebels*, in which they congratulated with the *Rebels*; for having drawn the *Rebels* to their Succour, they promis'd each other in their Letters all the Advantages they could expect, which aim'd at no less than to have driven the Emperour out of the best of his Dominions.

It was known that such of the *Hungarians* as were forc'd to run their Country for conspiring against the Emperour, liv'd only upon such Supplies of Money as they receiv'd from the *French*, to the End they should not be constrain'd to make their *Peace* with the *Emperour*, whose *Clemency* they were made believe extended no farther than to offer it; so that they resolv'd to prosecute their Enterprize upon the Promises that were made them from *France*. Which was the Reason that *Akakia* renew'd and confirm'd more powerfully than ever the League and Alliance with the *Malecontents* in *Hungary*. The *French* Emissaries also, without any Shame of violating the *Law of Nations*, and in Countries where the solemn Treaty of *Peace* was in full Force, tho' they had been manifestly discovered in a secret Conspiracy, run on afterwards more than ever with an unparalell'd Impudence, as if all things had been lawful for them to act without Controul.

An Hundred Thousand *Florins* were ordered at *Paris* to foment the *Discontents* of the *Hungarian* Rebels, and quicken the Motion of the *Turks*; which Sum was deliver'd at *Dantzick*, and paid into the Hands of a *Banker*, who after-

afterwards deliver'd it into the Hands of the *French Emissaries*, at several Payments, the better to hide the Business. And the *Sieur du Vernay Boucand*, Count *Teckely's* real Spie, caus'd to be deliver'd to the *Sieur Valentine Nemeffan* 11300 *Duckats*, to oblige the *Malecontents* to take Arms again, and attack the Citadel of *Zatmar*, after the *French Mode*; that is, to endeavour to gain the Garrison, or Citizens, with Money.

These Tricks of the *French Emissaries* were so well known, that the Princess *Radzivilliana* forbade the suffering any *French* to pass thro' her Countrey of *Saculia*, fearing lest they should, as in other Places, corrupt her People with Money; and one being taken passing thro' her Countrey, was by her Command laden with Irons, and severly punish'd. Nevertheless they took other Roads, and had frequent private Interviews with *Valentine Nemeffan*, *Peter Jagel*, and other particular Friends and Allies of *Teckely*. They made it their Business likewise to have more and more frequent Conferences in *Transilvania*, sending first one, and then another to *Paris* with ample Accounts of their Proceedings, and for farther Instructions.

Of all these things the Emperour's Ambassadour in the Court of *Poland* complain'd to his Majesty, and desir'd that no *French* Man, not being an Ambassadour, or bearing some other Employment, might be permitted to stay in his *Dominions*. Upon which the King gave Notice to the *French Ambassadour*, to order *Akakia* and *Du Vernay* to withdraw: The *Senate* also told the same Ambassadour, that they well understood that the *French* were they who
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had stirr'd up the Troubles in *Hungary*; that they knew what Money had been given for it, what *Cabals* they had held, and what the *Sieur du Vernay* kept every Day. They declared him to be a Spie, and that he had no other Business to detain him about *Leopold*, but only to treat with the *Turks* and *Mahometans* about drawing the *War* into *Hungary*. The Ambassadour answered, that *Vernay* was sent with him into *Poland* to manage the Affairs of the Most *Christian* King his Master, and deny'd that either *Vernay* or he had any Commerce with the *Hungarians* or *Turks*.

But the *Spanish* Ambassadour having made new Discoveries, renew'd his Complaints to the King, who gave him Audience in the Presence of *Vitry* the *French* Ambassadour, and before the whole *Senate*; where he spoke a long time against the abominable Methods and Practices of the *French*, carry'd on by *Vernay*, to promote the Troubles of *Hungary*, and bring the *Turks* into *Christendom*; but then it was that *Vitry*, having no Way to avoid it, declar'd *Vernay* to be joint Ambassadour with him from the *French* King, by that Means to shelter a Traitor to *Christendom* under the Protection of the *Law of Nations*.

Much about the same Time the *Castellan* of *Primislau* perceiving that neither His Majesty of *Poland*, nor the *Senate*, expell'd the *French* Spies, and moreover that their Designs still succeeded better and better, refus'd to permit *Vernay* to enter his Village of *Nimoravia*, but forced him to pass another Way.

Vitry was highly incens'd at this, and going directly to Court, laid before the King the Af-
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front and Indignity offer'd to his Associate *Vernay*, and was so bold as to demand the *Imprisonment* of the *Castellan* for Satisfaction; but the King not enduring his Confidence, told him plainly, that it was to no Purpose to couch *Vernay* under the Quality of an Ambassadour, for that the *Tragedies* he acted under the vain Pretence of an Ambassadour, were too well known; that all the Devices of the *French*, and their Contracts with the *Turk* were discover'd, that the Places which *Vernay* had corrupted, were named; their Resolutions and Designs known, that he could exactly tell how much Money had been remitted from *France* to *Hungary*, and how they had us'd *Violence*, *Deceit*, and wicked *Practice* against the Emperour, to the Misfortune of *Christendom*.

The Ambassadour would have pretended to have clear'd himself of these things, which he said were *wrongfully* charg'd upon his Nation. But the King growing *hot*, would not hear him, only told the Ambassadour he would lay Ten Thousand *Pistoles* with him, that he would *undeniably* prove all that he had said to be true.

At which the *French* Ambassadour stood amaz'd, and by his Silence sufficiently *confirm'd* the Thing. The rest of the *French* that were present also, in a *Consternation* fix'd their Eyes upon the *Ground*; not lifting them up, but to gaze upon one another, as it were *accusing* 'em-selves. So certain it is, that the inward Reproach of *Conscience*, and the secret *Power* of *Truth*, put the most fierce and confident out of *Countenance*, and by reducing the *guilty* to a shameful *Silence*, force them to make some sort of Confession of their Crimes.

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Besides what has been recited, there were several Letters intercepted, which clear'd up the Truth of the *French* Correspondence with the *Turks* and *Hungarian* Malecontents. One from Monsieur *Vernay* to Count *Teckely*, wherein the *French* Spie tells him, that he had received with great Joy the Letters which he sent him from the Camp before *Filleck*, enclos'd in the Packets of the *French* Ambassadour at *Constantinople*. That he had endeavour'd to send *Jaygell* what he had promis'd him, and what he had receiv'd, but wanted an Opportunity; farther he desir'd the Count to order it so, that his Messengers should come to him by Night, and directed him which Road they should take, to avoid the Searches of the *Polonians*, concluding that he should take Care in all things that the Count should be pleas'd to command him.

Another Letter from Count *Teckeley* to *Vernay*, wherein the Count gives *Vernay* Thanks to his faithful Agent *Valentine Nemeffani*, and promises him to acknowledge it, as Occasion should serve; gives him an Account of his taking *Cassovia* and *Filleck*, and how he intended to prosecute his good Success.

Another Letter from *Peter Jaygell* Governour of *Cassovia* to Monsieur *Vernay*; wherein *Jaygell* gives *Vernay* an Account of the taking and dismantling of *Filleck*, that *Teckeley* had been proclaim'd King of *Hungary*, and confirm'd in that Quality by the Great *Turk*, who sent him from the Port a *Hat* instead of a *Crown*, a *Standard*, and a *Sceptre*. He tells *Vernay* farther, that *Nemeffani* was gone to treat of Affairs at the *French* King's Court, and presses *Vernay* to hasten the Supply promis'd by the *French* King,
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Sufficient Proofs of the pernicious and Most *Anti-Christian* Treacheries of the Most *Christian* King to the Ruin of *Christendom*. After all this, to shew the Extent of *French* Falshood, you shall see that if it stand with his own Interest, the *French* King will not stick to betray himself, and discover his own Treasons; for that at the Beginning of the *Dutch* War, when he saw the Emperour arming himself in good earnest to assist the *Dutch*, to dissuade and divert him from his Purpose; and to engage him, had it been possible, not to concern himself in the Quarrel, he very fairly offer'd to deliver into the Emperour's Hands all the Original *Letters* and *Papers* he had receiv'd from Time to Time from his *brib'd* Friends and Creatures in *Poland* and *Hungary*, to the end that both his *Imperial Majesty* and the King of *Poland* might take such Orders as they thought fit with those *Traitors*, which may serve as a fair Warning and Determent to all those that prefer *French* Money before their Loyalty, and the true Interests of their Country.

'Tis true, that for some time the Most *Christian* King made the raising of his Siege from before *Luxenburgh* a great Argument of his *Christian* Zeal and Generosity to his *Imperial Majesty* nor to assail him when the *Turk* was at his Doors, but the true Ground of his retiring, was this, notwithstanding his specious Pretences, at the Instance of the Confederates, all good Offices were done by the King of *England*, and Memorials given, but all to no Effect, 'till the Word *Parliament* was put into them. That powerful Word had such a *Charm* in it, that even at a Distance it raised the Siege;
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which may convince us of what *Efficacy* a King of *England's* Words are, when he will give them their full Weight, and threaten with his Parliament.

Then it is that he appears that greater Figure which we ought to represent him in our Minds, the Nation his *Body*, He the *Head*, and join'd with that *Harmony*, that every Word he pronounces is the Word of a *Kingdom*. Such Words are as effectual as Fleets and Armies, because they can create them; and without this, his Word sounds abroad like a *faint Whisper*, that is either not heard, or which is worse, not minded.

But to return to the *French* King, and bring him home to his own Dominions, where you shall find his extraordinary Kindness to his then Highness the Prince of *Orange*, in demolishing the Castle, and pulling down the Walls of the chief City of his *Principality of Orange*, to save him the Expence of a Garrison, and plundering and exacting vast Sums of Money from the Subjects of another Prince, living in Peace, and giving him no Disturbance, meerly under Pretence of entertaining the Children of *Hugonots*. Nay, you shall find him persecuting his own Subjects under the Name of *Hereticks*, and sending his Missionary *Dragoons* to convert them by ransacking their Houses, robbing them of their *Goods*, defiling their *Wives*, deflowring their *Daughters*, and inflicting upon the *Men* Torments more cruel and inhumane than those of the *Ten Persecutions*; and all this while, they were under the Protection of several Edicts, solemnly granted and ratified to them for the Exercise of their Religion without Disturbance.

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These are the renowned Acts of *Lewis XIV.* displaying the lovely Prospect of his *Falshood* to *England*, his Breach of *Faith* with *Spain*, his *Infidelity* to *Holland*, his *Juggling* with the *Northern Princes*, his *treacherous aspiring* to the *Imperial Throne*, his vast *Expences* to divide the *Princes of Germany* from the *Empire*, his endangering the *Subversion* of all *Christendom* by confederating with the *Turk*, and his *Violations* of the *Peace* of his own *Subjects*.

In a Word, it has been his common Practice to give the World all Manner of Disturbance, and to render *France* the common Enemy of the *Peace of Mankind*, and a publick *Pest* among all States and Princes; in every Country and Kingdom he either finds *combustible Stuff*, or else makes it, and then sets Fire to it, being at an excessive Charge to find Fodder for the various Animals of Faction in all Places. Which Sort of *Politicks* appear to be so much the more criminal, because there is no just revenging them, but that which obliges all generous Nations to fight their Enemies with their Arms in their Hands, and openly: There being nothing so base as that which makes Men make use of wicked Devices and execrable Treasons, as the Instruments to ruin others; nor does he that thinks to assume the Name of *Great* by unworthy Artifices, render himself a whit the more truly *glorious*. Souls truly Royal and Magnanimous have always despis'd the Conquests they could more easily obtain by *Cunning* and *Trapan*, than by *Force* and *Arms*: And it was out of their Opinion, worthy a Noble Spirit, that *Alexander the Great* sharply rebuk'd his Favourite *Parmenio*, who would have put him

him upon a crafty Contrivance, telling him, it was only fit for *Robbers* to have Recourse to *Treachery*, as their only Means to compass their *Thieveries*. But the *French King* is of another Temper, and thinks it more safe to conquer by *Divide & Impera*, than by Dint of *Sword*. He knows himself good at *Burning*, witness *Alsatia* and the *Palatinate* laid in *Ashes*, and therefore thinks it better to set other Countries, which he cannot otherwise come at, in a Flame by Treachery and Faction, that having enough to do to quench their own Fires at home, they may have neither Leisure nor Power to hinder his Projects abroad.

Doubtless then since *England* has so lately seen her Neighbours Houses in so sad a Conflagration, it is a sufficient Justification for her to look to her own, and to secure her self and all *Europe* from such *Bontefeus*, and the said Effects of their impious Designs.

Seeing then there is so little Credit to be given to the *Carthaginian Faith* of *France*, and that all the *Motions* of that aspiring Monarch tend directly to the Subversion of the whole Frame of the Government of *Europe*, and to erect a *French Tyranny* over all the enthralld Princes of this same Fourth and best inhabited Part of the World, there are two Motives which ought to excite the Princes of *Christendom*, to take the common Cause in hand; the one is Interest of State, the other the strict Obligation of Justice. The first is, the general Concern of all the Potentates of *Europe*, the second, the particular Interest of the Princes of the Empire. We shall only take Notice of the former, as being the most universal, and most

most considerable in the World, and which will lead us insensibly into the second. The grand Concern is now to support the *Right of Nations*, which is common to all, and to prevent the introducing of Maxims into the World which destroy all Commerce among Men, and will certainly render humane Society no less dangerous and insupportable than that of *Lions* and *Tygers*; to defend the publick Faith of *Treaties*, and remove from the Sight of *Christendom* a scandalous Example, which, by the fatal Consequences of it, will surrender the most feeble to the Will and Pleasure of the strongest and most potent; to stop the Innundation of a Rapid Torrent, against the Impetuosity of which neither Leagues nor Marriages, neither Oaths nor Ties of Blood and Parentage, neither Amity nor Condescensions, are Bounds or Damms sufficient to defend the common Bulwark of *Christendom* against a vast Design, which has no other Ground than the insatiable Thirst of Conquest, no other End than despotick Domination by Dint of Arms, and Sight of Intrigue, nor any Limits but such as *Fortune* shall prescribe. In short, *England* is now to decide the Fate of *Europe*, and to pronounce the Sentence of her Liberty or Bondage.

Nor does there want Justification sufficient to pursue so great and glorious an Undertaking to the utmost, when we consider the Maxims of *France*, which are easie to be gather'd from the past and present Conduct, her insulting Monarch, whose Design was to have thrown his *Wash-pot* over the Empire, and his *Shoe* over all the rest of *Europe*. The first Maxim of *France* is, to make War alway abroad, and to

exercise her young Nobility at the Expence of her Neighbours. A Maxim very politick, and well adjusted for her own Advantage; but very incommodious for all the rest of the World: For it is certain the Genius of that Nation cannot long endure the Calms of a lazy Peace; so that if you cannot find Employment for them abroad, they will be framing Commotions and Disturbances at home. The Eldest Sons of all their Noble Families carry away the Estates, without leaving any thing to the Younger, but an empty *Title* and their *Swords*; so that being little addicted to Learning, and disdaining the Life of *Mechanicks*, nothing remains but War, or Thievery, to rescue them from Misery; which is the Reason the Politicks of *France* oblige her to be continually picking Quarrels with her Neighbours, to evaporate those Flames, which otherwise would prey upon her own Bowels.

Their Second Maxim is, to insinuate themselves into all Sorts of Affairs on which Hand soever it be, and to make themselves Umpires in all Business, either by Force or *Subtily*, by Threatnings, or under Pretence of Friendship, to wriggle themselves into Treaties of Peace where they are Parties interested, as they did in that of the Bishop of *Munster*, and afterwards in the Assembly at *Breda*. There never was any Quarrel wherein they had not the Cunning to pretend some Interest or Right; and never any People shew'd the least Inclination to rebell, but they always made them their *Allies*. But Experience tells us, that they never took Part in any *War* but to enflame it
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the more, nor ever interpos'd in any Peace, but to sow the Seeds of new Differences.

Their third Maxim is to make *Interest* of *State* the only Rule of all their Actions, without having any Regard to the Faith of Treaties, or the Sanctity of Religion, or any other Ties of Parentage or Friendship, according to the Fundamental Principle of the D. of Rohan, *That Princes commanded the People, and Interest commanded Princes*: So that all that the *Turks* have gain'd upon *Europe* from the Time of *Francis* the First 'till this Time, they owe to their Alliances with *France*, and the Diversions she has made in their Favour, by giving Disturbance to those that enterpriz'd any thing against the common Enemy.

Their Fourth Maxim is, to keep, as much as in them lies, all Foreign States employ'd and divided at home, or else engaged in Foreign War, (of which *England* in particular has found the sad *Effects*,) and under Pretence of assisting sometimes one, sometimes another, to seek their own *Advantages* in the *Troubles* of others.

These are the Maxims of Men that make haste to be *Rich* in *ignoble Conquests*; and the infallible Marks of a profound and vast Design, that must be stopp'd in Time, to stop the spreading of the *ambitious Gangrene*; for from a Royal and powerful Professor of such Maxims as these, there is no Prince that can be safe in his Dominions. Among private Persons it is the most difficult thing to deal with a Man of a large Conscience; how much more a most *Herculean* Task it is to cope with a mighty Potentate whose Conscience is no less wide than his Ambition is vast, who having Eleven Mil-

lions of Sterling Pounds, torn from the Bowels and Mouths of his poor and wanting Subjects, at Command, to maintain his Wars, and bribe his Way to Conquest thro' all the Fences of *Religion, Morality and Common Justice*, values not the tremendous Anger of Heaven, nor the Violation of all the Laws of God and Nature, nor the preservative Constitutions of Men to attain his Ends. It is said of *Tamerlane*, tho' a *Scythian* and *Barbarian*, that to one who earnestly importun'd him in Behalf of *Bajazet*, he made this Answer, that he did not punish a *King*, but an *impious* and *nefarious* Man. The same Justification have the Princes of *Europe*, that they fight not against the Most *Christian* King, but an *Antichristian* Usurper, who conquers to oppress, and oppresses meerly to support his Oppression, and shew the Grandeur of his Power.

England has more just Pretences to his Dominions, than perhaps he has himself, at least far more just than what he has to the Conquests which he has wrested out of the Hands of the *Spaniard* and the *Emperour*. *England* has the greatest Reason in the World to recover her antient, and 'till lately uncontested *Glory*, and assert her long continued *Dominions* of the Seas, usurp'd by the Assistance of a purchas'd *Navy*, which if once *destroy'd*, nothing but the same Opportunities could again recover. It is said that the *Portcullis* was added to the *Royal Badges* of the Crown of *England*, to signify that the Kings of *England* had a just *Right* and *Title*, at Pleasure to shut up and open the Sea when they thought fit; and it may still be prov'd, by several substantial Evidences, that the

the King of *England's* Title to the Propriety of the Sea, is as good, and perhaps better than any Title the *French* King has to any Part of his Dominions by *Land*. And the Letters are still to be seen in the *Paper-Office* at *White-Hall*, if not remov'd, written by this King's Grandfather with his own Hand to King *James*, to ask Leave for some few *Vessels* to fish for *Sonles*, as he should have Occasion for his own Table; and it ought to be so agen, for it is only fit that *England* should guard the Seas, that so well defend and guard Her. Justice it self now loudly calls to *England* to demand Satisfaction for the illegal and vexatious Depredations and Practices committed upon her Merchants, even at the Time when she was in strictest League and Combination with her, to the Ruin of her Trade, which is the *Apple* of her *Eye*, and the main Support of her *Wooden Walls*, her chiefest *Glory*, and next under *Heaven*, her chiefest *Safeguard* and *Protection*. She ought in *Justice* and *Honour* to resent the Indignities and Affronts so lately put upon her, in making her, that ought to be the *Balance* of *Europe*, the *Derision* of her *Enemies*, and only the Pity of her Friends; such a generous Animosity and Resentment as this would wean the *English* Nation from that fond *Dotage* upon *French* Baubles, *French* Fashions, and *French* Vermin, to the Loss of above Sixteen Hundred Thousand Pounds Yearly to this Kingdom, (there having been Yearly so much more imported of *French* Commodities, than exported of ours) which only serves to enrich the Capital Foe to our own Ruin, and to fit us for the Yoke of the *French* Slavery. For this is a
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certain Rule, that the first Step to the subduing of a Nation is to insinuate into them a good liking, or rather a Dotage of those that are to be their Subduers; and therefore it was, that the *French* King observing, that while the *English* were under the Conjunction of the *Triple League*, there was a general Humour in the Nation, in Opposition to *France*, insomuch that they had thrown off the *French Mode* and put on *Vests*, to the end we might look the more like a distinct People, and not be under the Servility of *Imitation*, which always pays a greater Reverence to the *Original*, than is consistent with that Equality which all Independent Nations should pretend to; I say, the *French* King observing this, did not like this small Beginning of ill Humours, wisely considering it as a natural *Introduction*, first to make the World his *Apes*, and then his *Slaves*; and therefore he set his Instruments at work to laugh us out of our *Vests*, which she performed so effectually, that in a Moment, like so many *Footmen* who had quitted their Masters *Livery*, we all took it up again, and return'd to serve the *French*.

And happy would it be for *England* if she would cast off her *French* Modes, her *French* Fashions, and *French* Humours, which only serve to corrupt and soften the Minds of those for whom it would be much more glorious to remember the Fields of *Poictiers* and *Agencourt*, and rather to study the generous Examples of their victorious Ancestors, than be the Slaves of *French* Imitation. The conquering *Romans* retir'd indeed to *Athens* to improve their Learning; but it betrays a Poorness of Spirit, inexcusable in the *English*, who have Two such
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magnificent *Universities* of their own, to gallop to *Paris* for Breeding; as if *Coupees*, *Complements*, *Grimaces*, and *Shrugs* of the *Shoulder* were the only *Accomplishments* of a *Gentleman*. Surely it was much better both for *England* and the General Peace of *Europe*, when the *English* taught them their running *Saxrabands*, and the good Breeding of Obedience, nor will it e'er be well, 'till the *English* become their *Tutors* again: For certainly there is no Government in *Europe* under which the People live so miserably, as under that of *France*; the Grand *Seignior*, or the *Czar* of *Moscovy*, are not more absolute over the People than the Tyranny of *France*. The *French King* may well be call'd *Tyrannus*, for he makes and abrogates the Laws at his Pleasure; he cannot be said to *rule*, but *tyrannize* over Cities, depriv'd of all the *Franchises* and *Priviledges* that render Societies happy, and to domineer over a poor naked People, stript of all things that make Life comfortable. So that the People may be said to *toil* and *moil*, but the Prince to wipe off the Sweat of their Brows into his own *Coffers*. You would swear that the whole Country were the Habitation of Poverty, where Penury walks about in wooden *Sandals*, single *Petticoats*, and wrinkled *Faces*, as if the Products of that fertile *Soil* were forbid to be touch'd by the innocent *Manurers* of that Terrestrial Paradise, where the *Corn* and *Wine*, and Fat of the *Land* is carry'd off to fit the *Royal Magazines*, or sold abroad to cram the King's *Exchequer*. And after all this, when the Shoals of *Locust Publicans* have devour'd all, even almost to the very *Stalk*, for the small Remainder to bear the
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Burthen of insolent free *Quarter*, is not only *Tyranny*, but licentiated *Inhumanity*.

All these Calamities and Miseries has *England* yet escap'd, tho' fairly threaten'd with them, had not Providence been very merciful to Her. The Husbandman plump and jolly, enjoying his Liberty, and a fair Proportion of his Labours, does not fear what the Confusion of *Babel* never knew, the horrid *Jargonry* of

Ayde, Octroy, Preciput, Equivalent, Crue, Taille, Estate, Subsistence de quartier d'hyvere, Garinzons, Mortpayses, Appointments de Gouvernours, Debtes & Affaires du Roy, Gratifications Extraordinaries, Deu Gratuit, Frais.

The necessary Supports of Life, Wine, Beer, Sider, are not enhanc'd by

Aydes sur le Vin, Bierres & Cidres, plus le Huiſtieme Denier, le Souquest, le Patire, Imposts & Billets.

The Markets are not pester'd with *Gabelles* upon Corn and Meal, nor the Mills with *Measure Coupee*.

No Tolls of *pied Fourchue*, nor Duties taken by Weight upon every Pound of *Flesh* sold in the *Shambles*, nor *Gabelles* upon Salt, but what are laid on by Consent of the People themselves.

The Shop-keepers are not molested with the *Gibbrish* of the mark upon Paper, the mark of Silver, the mark of Tinn, the mark of Hats, the mark of all Stockins, Silk, and Woollen, the mark of Shoes, the mark upon all Stuffs, Woollen, and Silk, the mark upon Linnen, the *Gabelle* upon *Jie*, the *Controle* of *Exploits*.

The Gentry are not vex'd with the Tax of free Gifts, Fifts, and Refifts, and Amortisements:

The

The Price of Valuation, the Mark of Gold, the two Soulx in the Pound, the seal'd Duty, the Duty of Controll, the Registers Duty, the Priest for being admitted to the Annual, and the Annual or Paulette.

A Sort of Language of the *Gallies*, not understood by *English Liberty*; yet all these, and many other abominable Taxes, Tolls and Impositions, are punctually levy'd one Way or other at the King's *sole Will and Pleasure*, with many more too prolix to be number'd, and whatever else his absolute Power shall think fit to impose anew, where ever any Subjects of the *French Monarchy* have their Habitations, when his emergent Occasions intimate a Pre-
tence, and must be paid without any Remorse or Compassion to the half famish'd Children and Families of the poor People, crying out for *Bread*.

Certainly to conclude therefore as I begun, the *Lician Chimera* and *Lernean Hydra* that wasted all the Country round about them, and ruined the Inhabitants with the scalding Flames and pestilential Breath that issued forth from their pestiferous Jaws, were Types of Tyranny in General, so more particularly of the present *French Monarchy*; but on the other side, we find that both *Bellerophon* and *Hercules* continue to this Day eterniz'd for fuding those Monsters.

Such Fables as these, being the Off-spring of great Reason, and wise Head Pieces, were not invented meerly to please their *Readers*, but to instruct the World, that Wars, which unavoidably must be attended with great Mischiefs and Calamities, are not to be unjustly under-

undertaken to do Wrong for Wrong's Sake, under Pretence of illegal Claims and Pretensions, but may be legally enterpriz'd to repell Injustice and Violence, and to curb the lawless Invasions of Right and Property, which are the original Blessings and Benefits of God and Nature, the unjust *Affailour* of which becomes an Enemy to both; and a Monster no less pernicious than either of those two: For those Monsters, no question, were no other than two aspiring Potentates, that made unjust and cruel Wars upon their Neighbours, without Provocation given, and therefore were most justly subdued by *Bellerophon* and *Hercules*, and they no less justly rewarded for the Benefit received by their glorious Actions, which even exceed all Fame. Vertue is Vertue still unalterable; from whence we may conclude, that the same Glory still attends, and that the same Success will prove the subduing these *Chimaras* and *Hydras* of Men, that for so long Time have harrafs'd *Europe* with wicked Wars and impious Depopulations, meerly to gain the Honour of being like those Monsters, *Terrors* and *Destroyers* of *Mankind*.



A Catalogue of French Commodities Yearly transported into England, by which it appears that our Trade with France has been at least Sixteen Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, clear loss to this Kingdom.

1. **T** Here is transported out of *France* into *England*, great quantities of Velvets plain and wrought, Sattins plain and wrought, Cloth of Gold and Silver, Armoysins and other Merchandises of Silk, which are made at *Lions*, and are valued to be Yearly worth One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds.

2. In Silk, Stuffs, Taffeties, Poudefoys, Armoysins, Cloths of Gold and Silver, Tabbies plain and wrought, Silk-Ribbands, and other such like Silk Stuffs as are made at *Tours*, valued to be worth above Three Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

3. In Silk-Ribbands, Gallowns, Laces, and Buttons of Silk, which are made at *Paris*, *Roan*, *Chimont*, *St. Estienes* in *Forrests*, for about one Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year

4. A great Quantity of Serges, which is made at *Chalons*, *Chartres*, *Estamines* and *Rhemes*, and great Quantities of Serges made at *Amiens*, *Crevecoeur*, *Blicourt*, and other Towns in *Picardy*, for above one Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year.

5. In Bever, Demicafter and Felt Hats, made in the City and Suburbs of *Paris*; besides many others made at *Roan*, *Lions*, and other Places, for above one Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds a Year.

6. In Feathers, Belts, Girdles, Hatbands, Fans, Hoods, Masks, gilt and wrought Looking-glasses, Cabinets, Watches, Pictures, Cases, Medals, Tables, Bracelets, and other such like Mercery Ware, for above One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year.

7. In Pins, Needles, Box-combs, Tortoise-shell Combs, and such like, for above Twenty Thousand Pound a Year.

8. In

8. In perfumed and trimmed Gloves, that are made at *Paris, Roan, Vendosme, Clermont*, and other places, for about Ten Thousand Pounds a Year.

9. In Paper of all sorts, which are made at *Auvergne, Poitou, Limosin, Champagne* and *Normandy*, for above One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

10. In all sorts of Iron-mongers Wares that are made in *Forests, Auvergne*, and other Places, for above Fourty Thousand Pounds a Year.

11. In Linnen Cloth that is made in *Bretaigne*, and *Normandy*, as well coarse as fine, there is transported into *England*, for above Four Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

12. In Household-stuff, consisting of Beds, Matresses, Coverlids, Hangings, Fringes of Silk, and other Furniture, for above One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

13. In Wines from *Gascoigne, Nantois*, and other Places on the River of *Loyere*, and also from *Bordeaux, Rochel, Nantz, Roan*, and other Places, are transported into *England* for above Six Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

14. In *Aqua Vita, Sider, Vinegar, Verjuice*, and such like, for about One Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year.

15. In *Saffron, Castle-sope, Honey, Almonds, Olives, Capers, Prunes*, and such like, for about One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds a Year.

16. Besides five or six Hundred Vessels of Salt laden at *Maron, Rochel, Bouge*, the Isle of *Oleron*, and Isle of *Rhee*, transported into *England*, and *Holland*, of a very great Value. So as by this Calculation, it doth appear, that the Yearly value of such Commodities as are transported from *France* to *England*, amount to above Six and Twenty Hundred Thousand Pounds.

And the Commodities exported out of *England* into *France*, consisting chiefly of *Woolen Cloth, Serges, Knit Stockings, Lead, Pewter, Alom, Coals*, and all else, do not amount to above Ten Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year. By which it appears that our Trade with *France* is at least Sixteen Hundred Thousand Pounds a Year, clear lost to this Kingdom.

FINIS.



